LETTERS
FROM
MADEIRA

COMPRA

R. Q. 131-748.

# LETTERS FROM MADEIRA

IN

# 1834;

## WITH AN APPENDIX,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE HISTORY OF THE ISLAND,

CLIMATE, WINES,

AND OTHER INFORMATION UP TO THE YEAR 1838:

BY JOHN DRIVER.

"NAMED FROM HER WOODS, WITH FRAGRANT BOWERS ADORN'D,
FROM FAIR MADEIRA'S PURPLE COAST WE TURN'D;
CYPRUS AND PAPHOS' VALES THE SMILING LOVES
MIGHT LEAVE WITH JOY FOR FAIR MADEIRA'S GROVES;
A SHORE SO FLOWERY, AND SO SWEET AN AIR,
VENUS MIGHT BUILD HER DEAREST TEMPLE THERE."

*The Lusiad, Book V.*

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# PREFACE.

In presenting this short account of the Island of Madeira to the public, I wish it to be distinctly understood, that I had no intention during my sojourn there of sending to press the few rough notes then made; which now appear cast, clumsily I am afraid, into the form of epistles. My friends incessantly importuned they should be published for their own private reading. I was repeatedly called upon by persons going out to Madeira to give them information regarding the Island. What was to be done? Alas! what could be done, but to give them the notes from my journal, slightly remodelled.

Lord Orford has somewhere said—"Why should we not write what we see? The simple

narrative of facts has often more interest than the most elaborate fiction." But I doubt if all this will be considered an adequate excuse for the faults which these letters will be found to possess; yet am not entirely without hope of meeting with a small share of public favour, when I reflect that Southey may have spoken the sentiment of many others, whilst delivering his own in such words as these: "Provided I can gain information, I become every day more careless about the style in which it is conveyed."

There is no recent work on Madeira; that of Bowdich in 1823, and "Rambles in Madeira in 1825," are the latest; neither of which can be considered as a guide to the Island, though containing the most valuable information. In fact, it is only of late years that the place has become such a celebrated resort for invalids suffering under pulmonary complaints. During the winter of 1834, about eighty persons visited the Island in search of health; whereas, in

the season of 1837, upwards of three hundred invalids resorted thither to avoid the inclement weather of England.

My object in going, was for the improvement of an impaired constitution; indeed the sons of Æsculapius were of opinion that nothing less would preserve me from a premature grave. I embarked in the month of February 1834, and remained until June, (a period of about four months), during which time I gradually recovered my wonted health, and left the Island perfectly convalescent. Since this I have visited the most favoured spots in Portugal and Spain, and I can confidently say, that the climate in none of these places is to be compared to that of Madeira.

The Letters which comprise this small volume will be found to contain a description of the principal places or *lions* worth seeing in the Island; and the Appendix, to give information that must prove useful to the invalid who purposes to visit it for a temporary residence.

Madeira, as well as Portugal, being subject to so many changes, not only in its government, but in its domestic affairs, I have obtained the most recent information regarding the best mode of going out, the choice of an abode, and the expenses of living, &c.

To the friend who has furnished me with this information, I take this opportunity of returning my warmest thanks; and now nothing more remains for me to add, but my sincere desire that the reader, should he be about to visit this "*Flor do Oceano*" for the benefit of health, may have the same reasons to value its climate, remember its dark eyed maids, think on its rich scenery, and look back with heartfelt pleasure on the friends he meets there, as were, fortunately, bestowed on his humble servant,

J. D.

Seacombe, near Liverpool,
September, 1838.

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# LETTERS FROM MADEIRA.

# LETTER I.

VOYAGE—VIEW OF PORTO SANTO—FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF MADEIRA—QUARANTINE—LANDED AT FUNCHAL—ANNIVERSARY OF DON MIGUEL'S ENTRANCE INTO LISBON—RELIGIOUS PROCESSION—SUNDAY EVENING AT THE HOUSE OF A FIDALGO.

Madeira, March 3rd, 1834.

Success to the good Ship ————! which brought us safely into the Bay of Funchal on the 22nd ult., after a passage of thirteen days from Liverpool. As you have never bounded it on the briny deep, I must, in the first place, give you some idea how we manage to kill time on board ship, before I describe to you my "impressions" of this "gem of the ocean."

We left the Mersey on the morning of the 9th ult., and on the 12th, passed Tuscar; nothing particular occurring, except during the

night, when a vessel kindly left her figure-head on our deck as she was passing. I heard the collision and the passengers rush on deck, as I lay in my berth quietly awaiting the result, which fortunately was favourable, as we had sustained little damage.

My fellow-passengers were Mr. B———, a strict Methodist; Dr. H———, who has twice visited China, and Mr. C———, a young gentleman going out to Jamaica to superintend a sugar plantation. Three characters more at variance scarcely could have been selected; B'.s constant topic of conversation being on religion, the Doctor wishing continually to play whist, whilst C. was much in want of a bottle-companion. Of course I joined each of the party, as best suited my varying mood, my mind being of a mingled character, like that of most men; and when I was tired of the trio, took a lesson in navigation from the Captain, who informed me, as all other Captains do, that his vessel was one of the best ever launched—she

was built expressly for himself—he had seen every timber placed in her—and knew she was the swiftest barque out of the port. What with wine, cards, long arguments on religion, shooting at the bottle at the yard-arm, and cigars in the evening, each day passed off uncommonly well till we made land, on the 21st ult., which was the island of Porto Santo. We passed this place at a distance of about four miles, and could descry a small town or village at the extremity of a beautiful bay, and fine sandy beach. Soon after we came in sight of the Desertas, a cluster of rocks, one of which, having a pyramidical form, appears at a distance like a ship in full sail; in fact, report says a Danish ship of war, after repeatedly hailing the same without answer, gave it a broadside.

We lay off Madeira during the night; and at eleven a.m. on the 22nd anchored in Funchal roads, about half a mile from shore. I was rather disappointed on my first view of the

Island, the appearance at a distance being barren, rugged, and very mountainous. On the extreme heights snow was easily discernible. It is seen, however, to the worst advantage as you are bearing down between the Desertas and Point St. Lorenzo, the track by which we approached the Island.

The city of Funchal, the capital of Madeira, is most beautifully situated at the head of a bay, the houses having a white and bold appearance, as seen from the anchorage, and shining under a sky as blue and serene as if a cloud had never crossed it, at once prepossessed us in its favour. To the left is Loo Rock jutting out into the sea, and, with its fort-crowned summit, presenting a lofty and singular appearance. In front of the bay is the Custom-House, with its *plaza*, on one side of which is the Governor's Palace, a strange barrack-like building; on the other, but more on the beach, stands a high tower, in an unfinished state, once intended to contain machinery for the unloading of the boats. On

the heights above the city are seen, in every direction, *quintas* of the nobility and merchants, surrounded by their vineyards and orange groves. About a mile up the mountain, in a direct line from the city, stands very prominent the large Church of Nossa Senhora do Monte.

After remaining several hours at anchor, we were visited by the customs' and medical officers, who showed their authority by at once placing us in quarantine, owing to our bill of health being signed by Don Pedro's consul, instead of that of the recognised sovereign, Don Miguel. A scene of tumult now commenced on board, which served for a time to dispel my own thoughts on quarantine laws, as well as on the rights of either Don Miguel or Donna Maria to the throne of Portugal. The Captain swore most bitterly against all Portuguese, and declared, if he had not *praticque* the day following, he would weigh anchor, and proceed on to Jamaica; at the same time placing

us on short allowance of water. The Methodist was gaily dressed for shore, and begged of the Captain to be a little more guarded in his language, which, of course, had just a contrary effect. The Doctor cared little for a few days' quarantine, but vowed he would not go on to Jamaica; whilst our *bon vivant* was busy purchasing a bunch of bananas from some Portuguese, who had come with their boats alongside; at the same time offering them a dollar per bottle for a dozen of old Madeira, if they could bring it off to the ship. After dinner had passed, with sundry blessings to the officers who had placed us in quarantine, we were astonished to learn that boats were alongside, and the vessel was at liberty to land her passengers.

Though it was getting dark, we determined to enjoy the evening on shore, being apprized that it was a complete gala night—the anniversary of Don Miguel's entrance into Lisbon, which, we were informed, partly accounted for

our being kept so long on board; the officers, on such days, *not wishing to be troubled* with business.

Once more on *terra firma*, the streets presented a bustling and gay appearance; bonfires were giving their blazing light in every direction, whilst our ears were greeted at intervals with a loud cheer of "*Viva Dom Miguel!*" The consignee of our ship kindly gave us a welcome to his house till he made the necessary inquiries for us respecting lodgings, which he succeeded in obtaining at Mrs. French's, 33, Rua da Carreira. We remained at this gentleman's house till late in the evening; his good lady (a most beautiful Portuguese) entertaining us with some music on the piano, composed by Don Pedro; whilst from the balcony we had a view of the military, headed by their general, and saw also exhibited the portrait of Don Miguel, to which due homage was shown, strongly reminding me, at the time, of Gesler's hat in "William Tell."

On Sunday I dined with a Portuguese *Fidalgo*, from whose balcony we had a view of a procession coming from a church, it being a particular Saint-day, which I shall describe to you as briefly as possible. First came more than a hundred penitents, covered from head to foot with blue cloaks, some carrying across their shoulders heavy bars of iron, whilst others were chained in couples; following, was a body of soldiers, and band of music; then a number of children, beautifully dressed, and adorned with flowers, representing angels; next, twelve or fourteen of the Catholic gentry, carrying, on a platform, the figure of Christ bearing the cross, surrounded by priests who were chanting; and, in the rear of all, was a long procession of friars, &c. &c. From this church they were proceeding to another, where they met a second procession, with a representation of the Virgin Mary; and after the ceremony on meeting, they returned with torches to the former place. Tired with such

a scene of mockery and superstition, I hurried from the balcony, and on re-entering the house, was surprised to see a suite of rooms thrown open, where some sixty or seventy persons were enjoying themselves in dancing, and with music and cards. It was a sabbath scene, different to any I had ever before witnessed; but, of course, in a country like this, was nothing strange. At three or four card tables the elderly persons were busily engaged at whist and ecartè; whilst the younger and lighter-hearted part were footing it in the gayest manner. Between the dances, our hostess, Donna H——, would call on some fair *Senhora* for her song, which was always accompanied with the guitar. Every lady who plays this instrument (and there are few here who do not), at a party like this brings her own, so that, when called upon, she may be ready to show off to the best advantage. There was nothing particular in the ladies' style of dress, neither was there much per-

sonal beauty; but no lack of flattery passing in their continual chatter with one another. I preferred a *tête-à-tête* with an American lady, who was somewhat more intelligent and interesting than most of them; and after arranging for a pic-nic to the country in the following week, took my leave of this gay assembly.

# LETTER II.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY—AMUSEMENTS—SANTA CLARA CONVENT—THE BEAUTIFUL NUN—BALCONIES—PEASANTRY, ETC.

Madeira, March 10th, 1838.

THOUGH vessels are weekly arriving here from London, Liverpool, &c. on their way to the East and West Indies, yet there are few opportunities of writing direct to England, except by two packets, sailing between this and London, which leave about monthly. The time, however, I think is not very distant when there will be a better communication, probably by steamers, which seem to be extending in every direction.*

* See Appendix No. 1.—Page i.

The population of Madeira is somewhat more than 100,000, including the city, which contains about 25,000 inhabitants. The houses in Funchal are built of stone, and, in general, very spacious; the streets wider than you find in most towns in Spain or Portugal, and without that filth and other disagreeables which you meet with in the streets of Lisbon, Oporto, &c.; the latter arising, no doubt, from the number of English merchants who are resident here, and who are yearly making the place more *à l'Anglais*.

There are no places of public amusement, with the exception of the English Rooms, which contain a library, news-room, and billiard table, to which you are admitted at a moderate subscription, after having been proposed by a member, and passed the ballot. Ladies, introduced by a subscriber, are admitted on Monday evenings, and refreshments given; when five or six tables are generally made up for whist and ecartè. At the Gover-

nor's command, in order to make a more extensive parade for the soldiers, the Theatre has lately been pulled down. The building being the property of a company, many English (who were shareholders) remonstrated against this foolish act, but in vain, as it is now entirely destroyed, as well as the trees which shaded a beautiful adjoining walk. What seems most strange, in a city of this size, and where there are no hotels, is the want of *cafès*, generally so very numerous in all continental towns. With the exception of Loo Fields, round which there is a good level road overlooking the bay, there is no promenade or place of public resort for the inhabitants, the walks in every other direction being steep and rugged. Neither do you meet with equipages of any kind, as there is too great an ascent from the city, and the roads not at all adapted for vehicles of any description ; ponies, hammocks, and palanquins supplying the place of that English luxury, a comfortable travelling carriage.

The Cathedral is a fine building, but, like the other churches in the city, has nothing particularly interesting in the interior; the few paintings and statues there being of little value. The English Church, which was built by subscription, and cost upwards of £10,000, is a small but neat edifice, beautifully situated near to the Rua da Carreira, and surrounded by trees and flowers of every variety. The Burial-ground, in a more secluded spot, is a short distance from the Chapel.

The Santa Clara Convent is inhabited at present by about sixty nuns. Amongst the number is the celebrated Maria C———, so much admired for her beauty, and pitied for the reasons which placed her there. Coleridge mentions her in his "Six Months in the West Indies," and regrets he had it not in his power to assist her to escape. One of the Annuals also has her portrait, as "The Beautiful Nun of Madeira." On account of some jealousy between Maria and her sisters, she was placed in

this convent, more than eight years ago, by her father, at an age when anything but a secluded life would have been her choice, being full of wit, and possessing great personal attractions. She is now in her twenty-sixth year; and though grief and anxiety have left their impression, yet she is still lively and fascinating. In a conversation I had with her, she informed me that, some time ago, a change in the constitution of Portugal was the means of liberating all the nuns who wished to appear again in the world. She was one; but, unfortunately, at the time was seriously ill. She however left her rooms, and removed to another part of the convent, till her health was so far restored as to allow her to leave. But, alas! ere this took place, another change had occurred in Portugal; and poor Maria was again taken to her old rooms, to which she thought she had bid a final farewell. On my first visit to the convent, I had provided myself with a few trifling presents for this celebrated nun, to whom I was introduced

by a distant relative and favourite she had in the city; which introduction has often since proved as a key to Maria's waiting-room. She thanked me in the kindest manner for what I had given her; and begged I would sit down whilst she sent for some sweetmeats, which she handed, or rather turned round in a circular box, fixed on a pivot in an orifice in the wall. She afterwards sung several songs with great taste, accompanying herself on the guitar. I enquired if she was happy, and whether she would not prefer a life more at liberty. She replied that she was perfectly content, and wished to remain in the convent. After presenting her with my card, and promising to visit her again soon, I was about to take my leave, when she beckoned me to the grating, and taking a flower from her breast, kissed it, and handed it through the bars, with "*Adeos, Senhor Inglez!*" 'Twas of no use attempting to follow: a look at the ponderous double grating was sufficient; the box in the wall,

too, appeared to bid defiance; so I was obliged to take my departure, and content myself with the expectation that poor Maria would some day or other be released.

During my second visit to Maria C———, she informed me that the answers she had previously given to my enquiries were not agreeable with her inclination; and that she had long wished for an opportunity to make her escape from the convent; that when I asked the question, as to whether she was happy and content, in being debarred from the pleasures of the world, she felt compelled to answer in the manner she had done, as several of the sisterhood were, at the time, within hearing.*

There is little passing to and fro in the streets of Funchal, though there is no lack of spectators on the balconies of the windows, which seem here to be by far the most favourite

* See Appendix No. 2—Page vi.

resort. There is a large balcony nearly opposite ours, which, during the day, I scarcely or never see untenanted; three or four ladies being generally leaning over the balustrades in the most indolent mood.

The costume of the peasantry being entirely new to me, is pleasing; and, following the custom of the place, which such a climate naturally causes you to indulge in, I pass much of my time on the balcony, seeing these people coming from the country, laden with firewood, or with oranges, strawberries, bananas, and vegetables, for sale, and returning home generally with dried fish, &c. Most part of the men are habited in linen small-clothes, with a short jacket, and small conical cap of blue cloth, called "*carapusa;*" the women in short petticoats, with a circular tippet, generally of coarse scarlet cloth, and wearing the same kind of cap as the men. This only applies to the peasantry; for in the

city the dress of both male and female is entirely English.

Most of the houses have a small garden and vineyard behind, where everything grows with the utmost luxuriance, during all parts of the year; the one opposite to our *casa*, extending from the house inhabited by the ladies above-mentioned, is tastefully laid out as a flower-garden, and these *Senhoras* may sometimes be seen in the cool of the evening, after the greatest part of the day has been spent in lounging on the balcony or fingering the guitar, playing off their jokes, and running each other round the garden, even as gay and sprightly as they appeared languid and indolent in the morning.

The greatest annoyance you meet with in the streets are the sledges, drawn by two oxen, which are here used in the place of carts. The vehicle itself, as it is dragged along, makes the most disagreeable creaking noise; added to which is the discordant sound of the

*boieiro*, as he is goading the poor animals on; and, should you be in a narrow pass, the danger also of coming in contact with the horns of the oxen.

# LETTER III.

PALHEIRO—RIDE TO THE COURAL—DESCENT TO THE VALLEY—NIGHTFALL ON THE MOUNTAINS.

Madeira, March 17th, 1834.

The grounds of Senhor João de Carvalhal are the finest in the Island; possessing a level surface, which is very difficult to be met with here to any extent. This place was recommended to us for our first ride to the country; and after some delay in making choice of ponies and *burroqueros*, that we intended hereafter to patronise, we made our way eastward out of the city. Crossing a bridge over a deep bed of a river, we saw the ruins created by the flood in 1803, when several hundred inhabitants were

swept into the sea.* We now ascended a steep and narrow road, for a distance of two or three miles, passing several of the merchants' *quintas*, from all of which there is a commanding and beautiful view of the city and bay. The Palheiro, lately the residence of Senhor Carvalhal, by far the richest *fidalgo* of the Island, has been confiscated by the Miguelite government. Senhor C. himself had some difficulty in effecting his escape; however, he got on board an English vessel in the bay, and is now residing in London. Upwards of seven hundred pipes of very choice and old wine were at once taken from his cellars, and sent to Lisbon to be sold on government account. The house was ransacked, and his grounds are now (though this is a late occurrence) fast going to ruin. There are a few soldiers stationed near the house to prevent any material damage, and these are the only persons that are now to be seen on this once splendid estate. The park,

* See Appendix No. 3.—Page vi.

if we may so term it, is more in the English style than we expected to find it; but when we came to the orange, lemon, pomegranate, and shaddock groves, which are in fine foliage, and planted in the best order, we at once saw the effects of this southern clime. The flower gardens, though not abounding in that variety we might expect, are well arranged, but begin to show more of the "fallen state" of things than the other parts of the grounds. The house itself is not on a large scale, yet it is built in good style and keeping with the place, as well as the chapel, which is a neat edifice, at a short distance from the house. Senhor Carvalhal used to employ more than two hundred men on the estate, for the purpose of keeping it in order, &c. He was a kind landlord, and much respected throughout the whole of the Island. Let us, then, hope that Portugal will soon have a fixed government, and that Senhor Carvalhal will return to his country, and again have the pleasure of enjoying his estates.

On our return home, the *burroqueros* demanded a most exorbitant sum for the use of the ponies, and, as we had made no agreement previous to our going out, we were compelled to pay them more than double the price usually charged for the same distance. These *burroqueros* are arrant knaves, and will cheat a stranger in every possible way. They are even worse than the muleteers of Malta, so well known for their tricks and roguery.

Visited the *Coural.** This is the greatest lion of Madeira, and the one of which we heard most, previous to the gratification we had in viewing this singular and interesting freak of nature. We left Funchal early in the morning, and proceeded west on the coast as far as Cama de Lobos, when we turned towards the mountains; and had it not been for the scenery, which was constantly varying, and so different from what we had ever before witnessed, the

* See Appendix No. 4.—Page vii.

ride would have indeed been fatiguing. The road lies on the edge of a deep ravine; and as one looks down the sides of the mountains to the river, which is winding its way at the bottom, at a depth of from 1200 to 1500 feet, the view is grand beyond description, with vegetation of every variety, from the tall and lofty chestnut trees to the heaths and brooms of every kind, flourishing in the most wild and luxuriant manner. At a distance on the mountains, we saw the *quinta* of Mr. Veitch, the English Consul, called the "Jardim;" soon after which we reached the brink of the Coural.

It is almost impossible to convey anything approaching to a perfect idea of this marvellous place, which so suddenly bursts upon your view, and fills you with wonder and amazement. It is an immense crater, surrounded on all sides with steep and craggy rocks, with here and there a patch of verdure, a cluster of forest trees and evergreens, strongly contrasting one with another in shade and form. The depth

from the height where we were standing, to the bottom of the chasm, was no less than 2000 feet, and from the level of the sea about 5000 feet; whilst above us was seen Pico Ruivo, the highest point of the whole Island.* In the centre of the cultivated spot below, is a village and church (with an exceedingly clean and white appearance), shining amidst the vines and bananas, as if quite unconscious of the frowning precipices above. It was indeed an enchanting prospect, and one that could be seen again and again with emotions of delight.

We left the *burroqueros* in care of our ponies at a short distance down the mountain, but they joined us in a short time, bringing with them our lunch, amply provided by our hostess, which we soon spread out before us, and partook of eagerly after our ride; thus fortifying ourselves for undertaking a descent to the bottom of the chasm. The wind is generally keen,

* See Appendix No. 5.—Page viii.

and too cold for invalids at this height; however, the day was remarkably fine and clear, and having what is termed a "leste wind," or "sirocco," coming from the African coast, it was warm and sultry. This wind, to the *natives* of Madeira, is far from healthy, and generally attended with severe colds, &c.; but it has no such effect on foreigners.

We had now obtained guides to conduct us below, and though the appearance of the steep betokened that we might make too sudden a visit, they assured us they could take us in perfect safety. Each person supported by two guides, with long sticks to prevent their going down too quick, we commenced our zig-zag route, reaching the bottom in much shorter time than we anticipated, and in perfect safety. We had a letter to the worthy *Padre*, who gave us a kind welcome, and entertained us no doubt so far as his larder would allow him. Wine he had none; yams, and a little fruit with some good water—apologies, of which he had many—

were all he could bestow upon us, excepting what is at all times a great treat, a hearty welcome. Of course we must go to see the Lady of the Chapel, and, as good Christians, leave our *peseta* each. We afterwards rambled about for a considerable time, admiring the different heights and cliffs surrounding us, which now appeared far more terrific than before; black and craggy, and hung as it were in mid-air; some appearing nearly perpendicular; whilst our path was intercepted at times with huge masses of rock, that had, doubtless, rolled from the mountains. This created within us a feeling of awe and admiration too intense to allow us to communicate it to each other at the moment.

"Time flies fast," the poet sings; and so it did with us; for ere we had ascended half way up the side of the mountain, we found that the "shades of evening" were beginning to close upon us; and that, though we had found it an easy descent, we were likely to be very wrong

in our calculation in gaining the heights again; in addition to which, a heavy fog was fast filling the place, and though it gave a singular aspect to all around us, was far from cheering, considering the distance we had to travel ere we reached Funchal. On arriving at the summit, we were again discomfited; as there was no appearance of any of the *burroqueros*, whom we had ordered to wait till our return. After some delay, we found them much lower down the hill—even than where we had left the ponies,—and about to start for the city without us. Though night was fast setting in, yet our journey had given us a desire to finish the remainder of the good things Mrs. F. had provided us, viz. a tongue and couple of fowls, with two or three bottles of *vinho*, which we left where we had taken our repast in the morning; so we at once sat down to partake of the same; but, alas! no such things were to be found, not even the empty bottles; the *burroqueros*

having, in our absence, devoured and otherwise disposed of everything left.

Never shall I forget our journey home. The night was dark; the road narrow and rugged on the side of the mountain, where a false step of the pony might have sent the rider, neck over heels, 1500 feet downwards into the torrent below. The guides were anxious to reach Funchal, and the wine had taken from them every caution as to the passes we had to make. However, trusting to the ponies, which are rarely known to make a stumble, we kept briskly on, and reached the Carreira at ten o'clock, not over anxious to have another ride at night on the mountains.

# LETTER IV.

CAMA DE LOBOS—CAPE GIRAM—INTERESTING VIEW OF THE VALLEY—ACCIDENT—MARQUIS OF ***—SOCIETY—JEALOUSY AMONGST THE ENGLISH MERCHANTS—MOUNT CHURCH.

Madeira, April 8th, 1834.

EARLY on the morning of the 4th instant, we mounted our ponies for Cape Giram, which lies to the west of the city. Passing the race-course, near to the coast, and after crossing one or two ravines, we arrived at Cama de Lobos, distant from Funchal about seven miles, where we halted for refreshments, as the road from this to the Cape is very steep and rugged. The town or village of Cama de Lobos, mostly inhabited by fishermen, is situated at the mouth of a ravine, close to the coast, and is celebrated as the place where Zargo and Vaz,

the discoverers of Madeira, first landed in the year 1419.

Resumed our journey up the mountains, and after a very fatiguing ride, reached Cape Giram. This cliff, or rather headland, which is nearly perpendicular, and said to be the highest in the world, has its summit more than 1700 feet above the sea.* We had previously, in a boat, visited its base; but had been somewhat disappointed, as it neither appeared so high nor so perpendicular as we had expected to find it. We had now reached the brink of its highest part, and had employed two or three peasants to roll large masses of stone over the edge, whilst we lay flat on the ground, viewing their descent. It was a dangerous amusement, and a fearful sight, as the stones bounded from ledge to ledge, often lost to our view for a moment, and then sending up clouds of dust, as they took a mighty sweep

* See Appendix No. 6.—Page viii.

into the sea below. We now no longer doubted the height of the cliff, as told us on our first visit, and could scarcely believe it was the same Cape which we had seen from the sea beneath, so awful did the downward view appear. A short time sufficed for this boyish sport; for our situation was anything but pleasant, though we all enjoyed the sight.

We now retraced our steps to a high part of the mountain, having an extensive view of the valley and country around; and as we had brought sufficient fare, not only for ourselves, but also, this time, for the *burroqueros*, we sat down to our humble meal, as happy and content, no doubt, as Donna Maria; whose health, and that of an absent friend, (being the anniversary of her birth-day, and likewise of a particular friend of my own in England), we drank in bumpers of Buâl and Sercial, the produce of the vineyards before us.

During our stay here, a thick fog suddenly covered the whole of the valley; presenting a

most singular appearance, as the thin, fleecy clouds, of which it was composed, were wafted about the lower part of the mountains; whilst above, the atmosphere was perfectly clear, and the sun shining in all its splendour. This lasted but a short time: the wind rent the clouds asunder, and through the chasm thus made, the sun suddenly lit up the vineyards below with magical effect, giving us one of the most brilliant and interesting sights I ever witnessed. An accident occurred, which had nearly marred our day's pleasure. A large stone, having incautiously been removed from its place, rolled down the side of the mountain, tearing its way through corn-fields, vineyards, and everything before it, to the horror of the peasantry below, and the consternation of ourselves. Fortunately there was no loss of life, which might easily have been the case, considering the distance it went, through one of the most populous parts of the country. We, however, were soon beset with a number of

people from the valley, informing us of sad disasters. Some had lost cattle; to others it had done considerable damage in their fields and vineyards; whilst all were equally clamorous in demanding to be instantly paid for the loss they said they had sustained. We considered it best to see, ourselves, the amount of damage that had really taken place; and after visiting the vineyards, &c., we found that a few dollars would amply repay these men, as the cattle, which they assured us had been killed, must in the interval have taken life again, as they were nowhere to be found.

Returning home by the same route, we saw an English frigate entering the bay, which fired a royal salute of 21 guns, and was presently answered by a similar compliment from the fort on Loo Rock. The Governor, entirely ignorant, at first, of the cause of this mark of respect, was not a little mortified, (so we heard afterwards,) when he learnt that the

salute had been given in honour of the birth-day of the Queen.

The Marquis of —— and suite, having arrived here the other day, in the *Blonde* frigate, on their way to Jamaica, Funchal has presented a somewhat gayer appearance, and several large dinner parties and assemblies have taken place. As the Marquis is not quite so light a weight as the jockeys he often employs, I believe there was much consultation as to whether it would be safe or not, for him to attempt a ride to the mountains. Palanquins, hammocks, &c. were out of the question; both in regard to size, and the number of men that could be employed in carrying one. However, as he was not to be disappointed, the strongest horse in the city was selected to take him to the Palheiro, and the animal accomplished his task (no light one) with safety to his rider; but the Marquis declined, afterwards, viewing any other mountain scenery.

In consequence of the number of English merchants, now resident here, being sufficient to form a society of themselves, they do not mix much with the Portuguese, and therefore retain their old customs and manners, which otherwise could not be the case, amongst a people so very different in their habits from ourselves. At the same time, there is not that good feeling amongst the English which there should be; arising, I apprehend, from all of them being dealers in the same article, wine; which circumstance, not only here, but also at Oporto, &c., causes much jealousy and dissension, and fully corroborates the truth of what has been said about "two of a trade." Since I arrived here I have given the preference to the Portuguese, anxious to see and know the customs and manners of a people foreign to myself; and have, so far, found them hospitable and agreeable in the extreme. They are much attached to music and dancing; and when once you become familiar with a family, woe be to

you unless you are fond of the same amusements—as every evening brings with it a similar scene of merriment; and your only chance of escape, and of a safe protection, is to get seated with one of the elderly *Senhoras* at a game of ecartè.

Took a ride to the Mount Church, which appears so conspicuous on the heights above, as you first enter the bay. The road is well paved, though very steep; so much so, that it really appears dangerous to venture up on horseback; yet the wonderful agility of the ponies here, and the rare occurrence of any accident, give you little fear of attempting a pass or mountain of any kind. It is astonishing, too, with what speed you ascend these places; and the *burroquero*, always keeping up with you, often catches hold of the animal's tail, and thus assisted, he will run for two or three miles together.

The road lies between high walls of the different *quintas*, which in this direction are

very numerous; and though preventing your view of the country around, they are far from unpleasing; the sides of the walls being often covered with flowering shrubs, whilst above are seen the fuschia, geranium, myrtle, &c., in all their beauty, hanging over the terraces, or clinging to the pillars which support the trellises of the vines. Each *quinta* has its summer-house, overlooking the road, tastefully decorated, and often inhabited by some pretty *Senhora,* who may be espied peering at you through the flowers by which she is surrounded.

The Church has nothing particularly interesting in the interior, with the exception of Our Lady, who is bedizened with glittering jewels from head to foot, far more so than any I have previously seen. She is a great favourite here amongst all classes, and many strange miracles are told respecting her. The sailors look upon Nossa Senhora do Monte as a safe protection in all weather, and never venture to sea without having previously made her a visit.

There is a commanding view, from the front of the Church, of the country on each side; whilst immediately below appears the city, with ten or twelve vessels at anchor in the bay.

# LETTER V.

EXCURSION TO THE EAST—BRAZEN-HEAD—SANTA CRUZ—MACHICO—ST. ANTONIO DA SERRA—RAIN ON THE MOUNTAINS—FUNCHAL RACES—FLORAL SHOW.

Madeira, April 16th, 1838.

Before the sun rose on the morning of the 12th instant, we were on our way eastward from the city, in a narrow stony path, scarcely fit for man or horse to travel upon. Yet, after all, there is an indescribable pleasure in rambles of this kind, that sets at naught all difficulties of the road, or want of entertainment; which, I apprehend would on any other occasion be considered of serious moment. The novelty of everything that appears before you—the wit and anecdote of some of the guides or attendants—the pure state of the atmosphere—and

agreeable companions, all unite to make these excursions truly pleasing. We kept near to the coast, and, at a short distance from the city, crossed a ravine; after which the road became steep and irregular till we reached Brazen-Head, a cliff rising about 1200 feet perpendicular from the sea, and which forms the most eastern projection of the Bay of Funchal; rugged cliffs on either side, with a rocky beach below, over which a tremendous sea comes rolling in terrific fury, give to this point an exceedingly wild appearance. The road still continues near the coast, with high hills to the left, on which the vegetables are produced that chiefly supply the city. There is nothing particularly interesting till you reach Santa Cruz, a small town, said to be eight miles distant from Funchal, but they certainly must be Irish, judging from the long time we were on the road, though at a slow pace certainly, arising from the number of ravines which intersect the coast, and make it a continuation of hill and dale.

Santa Cruz is prettily situated in a valley, with a delightful prospect of the mountains above; the town itself presents a mean and poor appearance, and is at present full of the Miguelite troops, who behaved to us in the rudest manner, as we passed along the streets. We took lunch with Mr. G———, an English merchant, who has lately built a *quinta* here; and we saw in his grounds the finest palm tree on the Island. Hence, still on the ascent for more than three miles, when we suddenly came in sight of Machico, situated at the mouth of a valley, immediately below us.

The view from the height where we were standing, was truly magnificent. The whole breadth of the valley lay before us, with its small river in the middle, the banks of which appeared well cultivated, and the town of Machico near to the coast; whilst opposite appeared a bold range of hills, thickly populated, and stongly contrasting in character with the black and rocky side on which we had to

descend to the valley by a steep and circuitous route, which brought to my recollection the descent of the Coural.

We were again beset in the town by the soldiers, who, evidently intent on mischief, prevented our ponies from proceeding. After alighting, and enquiring for Major ——, to whom we had a letter, they treated us in a more becoming manner, and showed us the barracks, where we found our military friend, who afterwards accompanied us through the town.

Machico is chiefly celebrated as the place where Robert à Machim and Anna D'Arfet are said to have landed in 1323. There is a romantic story of these lovers, being the first discoverers of the Island, to one of whom the town is said to owe its name. Machim's chapel, one of the *lions* of the place, is small, and only remarkable in connection with the romance, and for being the first built in Madeira. Of course little credence can be given to this

strange history, though on the Island it is generally believed to be true.*

Crossed the ravine, and again winded our way up the mountain; not at all sorry to leave a town presenting such a scene of riot and confusion, without the means of affording us scarcely shelter for the night. In consequence of the number of troops sent here, several of the *churches* are converted into barracks, which we found, on passing, to present every scene of dissipation. Regained the heights, and broke off to a beaten path for St. Antonio da Serra, which is distant about six miles. For a short time we found the road hilly, but afterwards came to a level plain, having a firm gravel path, with broom and bilberry bushes growing high on each side of it, and giving out a pleasant fragrance. This table-land, or "serra" as it is termed, extends for many miles, and is situated at a considerable elevation above the sea. On

* See Appendix No. 7.—Page viii.

this height, we perceived the refreshing influence of a free current of air; and our ponies must have felt its invigorating effect likewise, judging from the difficulty we experienced in restraining them from proceeding at their utmost speed; but more probably they were exhilirated by that sense of freedom, which seems to inspire a horse the moment he steps out of a hilly or confined road.

Arriving at the chapel, the *Padre*, or vicar, gave us the key of a house, built here by a subscription raised amongst the English merchants of Funchal. It is solely intended for the use of visitors to the place, and, in consequence, parties are frequently staying here in succession, during the whole of the summer season. We invited the priest to join us at wine after dinner, in this place of accommodation; which invitation he gladly accepted. We then saw the interior of the chapel, which is small, and contains nothing worthy of notice. Visited two or three of the cottages in the neighbour-

hood, where I observed several of the women weaving a coarse linen cloth. The loom was a rude piece of workmanship, and the slow manner in which they passed the shuttle from side to side, struck me as being very different to the quick method by which it is shot across the warp in England.

The merchants of Funchal, who have no *quintas* in the country, must find it an agreeable change to stay here for a few weeks; and more particularly so, as the neighbourhood abounds in partridges for the sportsman, and affords many pleasant rides.

Having left the "serra," we were soon enveloped in a thick fog on the mountains, to which succeeded heavy rain; and though the road was tolerably good, yet the number of ravines we had to cross prevented us getting on so quick as we wished. We, however, must have proceeded at a good round pace, for we lost sight of our *burroqueros*, which is the only instance I recollect of having done so; and after

a wet and dreary ride, arrived at a beautiful village called Camacha.

Resumed our journey, and passing the Palheiro, came in sight of Funchal; the rain still falling in torrents, as it had done nearly the whole of the way from the "serra," a distance of fourteen miles. The city, on entering, looked deserted; whilst the Carreira had the appearance of a river. In the centre of the street, the stream came with such force, that it was difficult for the ponies to stem it; and if we shunned it on either hand, the *jet-d'eau* from each projecting mouth of the house-spouts, threatening to sweep both ourselves and ponies into the current, forcibly told us that "*medio tutissimus ibis.*" The water is not carried away by means of down-spouts, as in England, but shoots into the street from projecting mouths just below the eaves of the buildings.

Got home, and as soon as possible to our *camas*, taking two or three glasses of hot

sangaree. If in a climate like this, you at any time regret the absence of an English fireside with all its comforts, it is on an occasion like the present, when you are drenched with rain, and without the sight of any fire, beyond that of a few burning sticks. Your mind must then naturally turn to times when, in similar circumstances, you soon remedied and forgot what had occurred.

Horse-racing has, within the last few years been extended to all parts of the Continent, as well as the East and West Indies; and Madeira now boasts of its favourite horses, and annual meetings. The Race-course lies close to the coast, near the road to Cama de Lobos, and about three miles from the city. Having heard a few days ago of the "events" that were shortly to come off, and that races were a novel affair here, we determined upon seeing the sportsmen and fashionables of the Island. On the morning of the races, all was gaiety in the city, and every pony and *burroquero* had

a many days' prior engagement. We mounted our ponies; left the Carreira at twelve o'clock; and were soon on the road leading to the course, which presented a most singular scene, particularly at any narrow pass, where ponies, hammocks, palanquins, and pedestrians, appeared as in one mass. At the Race-ground everything had a still gayer appearance, the palanquins having brought a fashionable display of both Portuguese and English ladies, who gave a brilliancy to an assemblage probably never before equalled in Madeira. Many well contested races and private matches took place, the Portuguese generally being the losers, as regards betting; which was nothing strange, the sport being entirely new to them, and open to much deception. It, however, promises to be well supported, as it is a favourite diversion of the Madeirians.

Attended a floral and horticultural show, given by Webster Gordon, Esq., to which the principal residents and visitors in Funchal were

invited. After the show, each person was at liberty to partake of any fruit that had been exhibited, and thus to put its goodness to the best of all tests.

# LETTER VI.

VOYAGE TO PORTO SANTO—ACCOUNT OF THE ISLAND—RELIGION—RETURN TO MADEIRA—EXCURSION TO THE WATERFALL—TURRETS, ETC.

Madeira, April 24th, 1834.

THOUGH the Island of Porto Santo is situated at a distance of only about forty miles N.E. of Madeira, yet there are seldom opportunities of getting there except by the passage-boats, which convey the produce of the Island. Luckily, however, the Captain of an American brig, who had to wait for a cargo of wine at Madeira, proposed to take his vessel, in the interval, on a trip of pleasure to Porto Santo, and having *calculated* how many passengers he could accommodate, he engaged to carry a party of seventeen, amongst whom you will have already guessed that I was one.

It was a beautiful morning, as we left the Bay of Funchal, with just sufficient breeze to fill the sails, and bear us gently across the blue water, from under the lee of the land. As we intended remaining on the Island four or five days, many excursions were agreed upon, and plans devised, for our amusement; and having amply provided ourselves with stores, we all agreed that a few days' voyage at sea would not be unpleasant. However, after passing close under the Desertas, and bearing away from Point Lorenzo, we were astonished to meet with a strong north-easterly gale; and instead of the smooth water of the bay, which we had just left, we found ourselves tossing about on the billows of the wide Atlantic. The steady motion of the vessel, and the laugh and jest that passed on deck, for the first few hours, were now greatly changed, as a contrary wind, and pitching of the ship, had gradually caused the disappearance of most of the passengers; whilst some, leaning over the side

of the vessel, were quarrelling with themselves at being so foolish as to leave land on such an excursion; and others beginning, or afraid, to be squeamish, were recommending our return to Funchal, which was ridiculed by the few who were so fortunate as to feel no bad effects from the voyage. On the afternoon of the following day, we anchored in the bay of the little Island; and were soon surrounded by a number of boats, rowed by the most miserable-looking set of beings I ever beheld, who came to take us on shore.

There is here a firm sandy beach, extending many miles; and on landing, you soon reach a small town, the capital of the Island; in fact the only town or village which it possesses.

Porto Santo was discovered many years before Madeira, by Zargo and Vaz, who were driven here during a storm; and hence the name of the place, which signifies Holy Haven. It is about fifteen miles in circumference. On the summit of the highest hill,

is an old fort, about 1600 feet above the level of the sea.

This Island produces about fifteen hundred pipes of wine annually, besides a quantity of corn and orchilla weed; though at the present, from its parched and burnt appearance, I should scarcely think it in many places capable of yielding either corn or fruit. There are no trees of any kind on the Island, with the exception of four or five palm trees, at a short distance from the town;* neither do you see any *quintas* on the mountains above, which in Madeira greet your view in every direction, giving an agreeable cast to the country around.

The population is about two thousand, chiefly of the very lowest class; as persons in Madeira, convicted of theft, &c., are banished hither; which circumstance, in part, probably prevents many merchants from settling on the Island.

* See Appendix No. 8.—Page ix.

There is not a single English resident. Our letters, therefore, were to the Deputy-Governor, priests, &c.; from whom we expected to obtain such accommodation as would keep us from passing our nights on board the ship.

As a vessel anchoring in the Bay of Porto Santo is a rare occurrence, it naturally causes some sensation, and particularly in the present unsettled state of Portugal.

Before we landed on the beach, the Governor, with a guard from the fort, and a considerable number of the villagers, had assembled to meet us, anxious to learn the cause of our visit. Our letter from the Governor of Madeira quieted their fears, and an unfurnished house was at once offered us during our stay, which, for want of better accommodation, we gladly accepted. Provisions, wines, cots, hammocks, &c. were then sent for from the ship, and we took possession of as miserable a dwelling as I ever recollect having seen; but the quiet of any shelter on shore, however

bad, was preferred by most of the passengers to the uneasy motion of a vessel at anchor, though a cabin berth would have suited myself much better.

Next day was a holiday, and our *casa*, in consequence, was surrounded all day by the peasantry desirous of seeing the *Inglezes*. On visiting the Church, the *Padre* came down from the pulpit to welcome us to the Island, begging we would supply him with a little snuff, which we did. He afterwards introduced us to two of his nieces, who were certainly above the medium style of Portuguese beauty, and who laughed and chatted away in Church, as though it were a ball-room. They had been at Madeira, and were acquainted with one of our party, a Portuguese, with whom, and a friend of his, they kept up a *tête à tête* in Portuguese, apparently much pleased.

There are no horses or ponies to be hired; we, therefore, took a long walk into the interior, but were ill repaid for the fatigue, as

the country possesses nothing at all remarkable, unless it be the almost total uncivilization of the place.

The vines, which are here trained close to the ground, produce a thin, poor wine, which, when sent to Madeira, is distilled into brandy. We had sport in shooting quails, which served to pass away what otherwise would have been three tedious days; and our evening's amusement was in each party recounting their day's adventure. Thanks to our Santonian servants for so soon helping themselves and friends to the stores we had brought on shore, and which caused us to embark earlier than we had intended.

Weighed anchor, and sailed for Madeira; but again having a contrary wind, we were two days out at sea. However, once in the bay, we felt a double pleasure in viewing dear Funchal glittering before us; accompanied with the delight of having left such a miserable place as Porto Santo.

One of the *lions* in Madeira—and of which we had heard so much—is the waterfall, about three miles from the city. At the kind request of Mrs. S———, friend B——— and myself joined a party on an excursion thither. We left about nine o'clock, and were soon in a deep ravine; the only road to the fall being along the bed of a river.

For a considerable time the journey was pleasant enough, as the wooded sides of the hills, which walled us in, varied at every turn; sometimes broken and enlivened with here and there a patch of verdure, and a cottager's hut; at other times rugged and nearly perpendicular, with huge masses of stone hanging above us, threatening to give a little variety to the waterfall.* Two hours' walk, I supposed, would have seen us at our journey's end; and during this time the skipping from rock to rock, and the many laughable incidents that occurred,

* See Appendix No. 9.—Page x.

made it tolerably pleasant; but after one and two o'clock had passed, without any appearance of the wished-for place, I thought we had been deceived in respect to the distance; and began to regret having undertaken such a fatiguing excursion. However, after being half-broiled in the sun, with sundry upsettings, all fortunately on *terra firma*, we arrived at the long looked for goal, and certainly were much pleased.

The stream of water was not large; but as it bounded over the heights above, to the basin of the amphitheatre below, having a fall of more than 200 feet without any impediment, it had a pleasing effect; and shed a coolness around, which was particularly grateful after our long and harrassing walk.

A thousand thanks to Mrs. S———, who had a much better *fall* in store for us, having sent out wines and provisions to await us; which we found laid out in the neatest order, in a secluded spot a short distance from the

waterfall. It was an agreeable repast, and I never recollect having drank Sercial with such relish as I did on this occasion. The ladies, with B—— and several friends accompanying them, left us to view the *water;* whilst myself and a few others preferred remaining with the *wine,* not forgetting that we had still the same path home. After seeing and experiencing several other waterfalls on our way, we reached Funchal at ten o'clock, without any desire to visit the cascade again.

Most of the large houses have on the top a turret, or look-out, which commands an extensive view of the bay and country around; and which is always resorted to with the telescope, on the approach of any vessel; an occurrence that causes more sensation here than any other, particularly if it be the arrival of the packet from England. From these turrets also commences many an intrigue. I puff away my cigars here, and watch the signals from tower

to tower ; though I apprehend, in this respect, Madeira is rather a virtuous sort of place ; at any rate much better than some I have seen.

# LETTER VII.

DISCOVERY OF MADEIRA—HISTORICAL REMARKS—CLIMATE—WINES—MANUFACTURES—MONOPOLY—STATE OF CRIME.

Madeira, May 17th, 1834.

This Island, which is situated in 32° 37′ north latitude, and in 17° longitude, west of Greenwich, was first discovered by the Portuguese in 1419; and from its appearing as one immense forest, was named "Madeira." Zargo and Vaz, the discoverers, were, in consequence, made *Fidalgos* by the King of Portugal, and had the Island given them, and divided into two districts, which were first colonized by them; the former settling at Funchal, and the latter at Machico.* Fire was set to the wood,

* See Appendix No. 10.—Page x.

which, it is said, burnt for seven years; at one time obliging the colonists to take to their boats for safety. Madeira, which soon yielded a considerable revenue, was the first reward of the enterprises of Prince Henry.

In 1582, Portugal and its Atlantic possessions passing into the hands of Philip of Spain, a Governor was appointed for the whole Island, by whom, and his successors, its affairs have been ever since administered. The Governor is appointed by the King, and has a salary of 6000 dollars annually. The English government sent troops to the Island in 1801, which left during the following year. In 1807, it was surrendered to General Beresford; but in 1808 was restored, though continuing to be garrisoned by the English troops till 1814.

When the constitution of 1820 was proclaimed, all was joy and gladness; feasts, illuminations, &c. taking place in the city for some time after. But in 1823, when news arrived of the overthrow of this con-

stitution having taken place in Lisbon, and of Don Joâo the Sixth having again proclaimed himself absolute King, a deep gloom appeared to hang over the citizens of Funchal, with an unusual quiet state of things, that boded no good; the change giving great dissatisfaction to all, except the very lowest class.

Information was sent to the government at Lisbon, that a conspiracy was forming to give the Island into the hands of the English; and, in consequence, a new Governor (D. Manoel de Portugal) was sent out with an *Alçada* or extraordinary commission, to inquire into the case. Many persons were arrested, and afterwards imprisoned, or banished to Africa. Madeira then remained under absolute government until 1827, when, on the death of Don Joâo the Sixth, the sovereignty legally fell to Don Pedro; although at the time styled a foreign Prince.

When the law of Portugal was instituted, that no foreign Prince should wear the crown,

it was not supposed that her colonies would declare themselves independent; and it could not therefore be intended that, because the heir-presumptive happened to be Sovereign of one of her newly emancipated colonies, he should be, on that account, deprived of his right of succession. Don Miguel, therefore, acknowledged his brother as lawful King, and accepted his offer of being Lieutenant, or *Tenenti Rei;* but leaving Vienna, and arriving in Lisbon by way of England, he shortly afterwards had himself proclaimed King of Portugal.

In 1828, a frigate arrived with Jose Maria Monteiro, who had been appointed Governor by Miguel; but was refused admittance by Valdez, (now Baron Bomfim,) who was then Governor, and therefore compelled to sail again for Lisbon. But the Miguelite authority returned with a fleet shortly afterwards, and landing at Machico, took possession of the Island; the ex-Governor, and other officers,

with many of the principal Portuguese, taking refuge on board the *Ariadne*, Capt. Canning, by whom they were taken off Porto Santo, and there put on board an English brig, which landed them at Plymouth.

Since this period, a change has been anxiously expected, which now promises soon to be realized; as, by the last accounts, I observe Don Miguel's cause is considered hopeless. They are daily looking here for the arrival of a fleet with the intelligence of the fall of Santarem; and every vessel that appears at a distance, puts into their mouths—"The Pedroites are coming!" *

Madeira is chiefly celebrated for its climate, and truly deserves all that has been said in its favour. I speak from experience, having tried many of the most favoured spots in Europe, without meeting with any place at all approximating to it in equality of temperature, and

* See Appendix No. 11.—Page x.

freeness from damp or dew.* In this all invalids I have met with, agree; and I am confident that, should the government of the Island be perfectly settled, it will be resorted to in a few years by most persons seeking change of climate under pulmonary complaints. The heat of summer is not too oppressive; neither is the winter too cold. In fact, by a change of residence, a person might live here throughout the year, without experiencing much difference of temperature, and have the pleasure of beholding spring and autumn, as it were, reigning together, and producing fruits and flowers of every kind. The days do not differ much in length; the sun never sets much before six, nor long after seven; in fine weather leaving a rich purple glow over the face of things; which is soon followed by darkness, twilight being here, as in tropical regions, of short duration. The medium temperature,

* See Appendix Nos. 12 and 15.—Pages xi. and xvi.

taken from an average of four years' observation, has been found to be 68° of Fahrenheit; whilst the difference between the extremes of February and August was about 10°. The coldest months are January, February, and March; and the hottest, July, August, and September; whilst the rainy months may be said to last from October to January.

For an invalid, (but I have some time since considered myself out of this list,) I live tolerably well. Unless engagements prevent, my custom is to breakfast at nine—walk round Loo Fields—lunch at half-past twelve—ride for two hours—dine at four—taste sangaree and smoke a cigar at nine—and retire to my *cama* at ten.

The expense of living here is not so moderate as is, I believe, generally supposed; but there is a much better table provided than I ever met with in Spain or Portugal. Fish is very good, and in great variety; poultry is also plentiful. The beef is excellent, from a small breed of

mountain cattle; but the mutton very indifferent. Of game, there is the partridge, with snipes, woodcocks, and quails. The hare and pheasant, I understand, cannot be naturalized; the former is plentiful in Portugal, and I know no reason why it should not succeed here. Vegetables of all kinds are abundant. On the first day I arrived, I was astonished to see at table a dish of fine green peas. The potatoe and onion are exported to the West Indies, but not to a large extent. However, if the Portuguese government would allow the former to be imported into the Island, at a trifling duty, a cargo or two would yearly be taken for seed; and by this means an immense quantity would be exported annually, produced on lands at present almost useless. Of fruits, besides every kind that I think we have in England, there are the banana, guava, custard-apple, orange, lemon, lime, shaddock, pomegranate, and every description of table grape.

Flowers which require the greatest care in more northern latitudes, spring up spontaneously in all parts of the Island; and hedges or fences are formed of the fuschia, geranium, myrtle, wild rose, jessamine, honeysuckle, and prickly pear, giving a beautiful appearance as you ride along, and imparting a fragrance equally pleasing.

As you approach the higher parts of the mountains, the tall palm tree, the cedar, chestnut, pine, and poplar, appear in all their beauty and grandeur; whilst the heath and broom, with an innumerable variety of creeping or humble plants, grow in every direction, with the utmost luxuriance.

I cannot refrain from explaining to you at present (though I have not space to give you much of the information I collected on this subject) the reason why the wines of Madeira have, of late years, fallen (and no doubt justly so) into such disrepute in England. There is no country produces finer wines than those of

Madeira;* but the quantity of this description is limited to about 6000 pipes annually, whereas the total produce of the Island is about 30,000 pipes. During the war time, ending in 1814, the demand for wines, from the great number of vessels calling here, was very extensive; so much so, that the best qualities were soon disposed of; leaving in the lodges only the north wines, which are in general very poor and with much acidity. The temptation was too great to the merchants of Madeira to refuse executing their orders for wines at £70 and £80 per pipe, although £20 per pipe was the value of the wine now left in their stores. To remedy this as much as possible, and to take away in part the acidity and newness of flavour, the *estufas*, or stoves, were brought into use; which, by keeping the wines for three months in a closed place, at a high temperature (say 100 degrees), gave them a

* See Appendix No. 13.—Page xii.

mellowness and fictitious age, which induced the merchants to sell them as old wines. This forcing, as it may be termed, deteriorates the *genuine* flavour, which is not restored by any subsequent keeping of the wine; but I am partly of opinion that a more moderate and longer-continued heat of the *estufa* would be of benefit, acting upon the wine similarly, in some measure, to a voyage round by the East or West Indies, which, after all, is the best method of bringing on the mellowness of age. The natural consequence of this practice was, that Madeira lost its celebrity for producing fine wines; and it was said that the merchants imported into the Island wines from Teneriffe, Fayal, &c., at a low price, and then re-shipped them as their own produce. They afterwards found few orders arriving from England, and nothing but complaints of former shipments.

During this time, brandy and rum were admitted into the Island, at a trifling duty;

the former of which was used for fortifying the wines. In 1823, a decree was passed, prohibiting wines, brandy, or other spirits from being imported, except in bottles, and, in that case, at a high duty; which act has since caused about 10,000 pipes of inferior wine to be distilled annually into brandy, for mixing with the better wines, &c.; and thus has had the desired effect upon the export trade, which now amounts to from 8,000 to 12,000 pipes yearly of the best and middling qualities. There is, therefore, now a good genuine wine sent to England, which in time will be held in as high estimation as formerly; but an extensive demand would, probably, be the means of producing the same result as previously mentioned, as no more than from 6,000 to 8,000 pipes of really fine wines can be exported.

The following are the different kinds made on the Island; some of which are rarely met

with in England, for instance, the Tinta and Boâl :—

*Sercial,*—A dry white wine, possessing much body, flavour, and aroma.

*Boâl,*—A delicate white wine; the vine supposed to be from Burgundy.

*Malmsey,*—A rich sweet wine; a very small quantity produced.

*Madeira,*—A fine dry wine; which, if kept a sufficient length of time, is everything desirable.

*Tinta,*—A red wine, of a peculiar flavour, neither resembling Port, Claret, nor Masdeu; but more like the last, only a drier wine. When new, it has something of a Burgundy flavour.

*Negrinha,*—A rich red wine, or cordial, made from grapes dried in the sun.

I consider the Portuguese artisans of Madeira to be very ingenious, but not very industrious; the latter probably arising from the climate, and unsettled state of the Island;

its government having been continually changing for the last fourteen years.

The principal manufactures are coarse linen and woollen cloths, straw hats and bonnets, baskets, and shoes; of the latter a considerable quantity has of late years been exported to the East and West Indies. Cabinet-making in Funchal, has entirely superseded the importation of foreign furniture. The coopers are the only workmen allowed to exercise their craft in the streets; they form a corporation, having peculiar privileges; and the casks made by them, are said to be the best in the world. The nuns are famed for the making of artificial flowers of feathers, and for preserving sweetmeats.

A considerable revenue is derived from snuff, tobacco, and soap, which articles are exclusively in the hands of government contractors; with severe penalties and transportation to those who infringe on this monopoly. The contractor's boat is kept day and night in

the bay, for the purpose of searching all persons coming from vessels at anchor.

The crime of assassination in Madeira is very rare, which is the reverse of what we understand of the Portuguese character in general. Robberies are not frequent, and their prisons present, on passing, a very different appearance to those in the mother country; the latter of which are generally crowded to suffocation.

The men are sober and inoffensive; but, from the idle and sedentary life they lead, have an aged appearance when young in years. They are about the middle stature, apparently strong, of an olive or sun-burnt complexion; possessing good features, with dark eyes, and black curly hair. To strangers they are particularly civil and attentive, rarely meeting one in the street without taking off their *carapusa*, and are offended if the salute is not returned. The same politeness is shown to one another, even amongst the lower class of peasantry.

The ladies are much more beautiful and also resemble the Spanish Donnas more than those of the mother country. They are in general of good figure, with large and expressive eyes. Few, even of the higher class, speak English; but most of them are acquainted with the French language. From what I observed, they are affectionate in the extreme; and their friendship, when once formed, is true and lasting.

# LETTER VIII.

REASONS FOR HAVING GONE ABROAD—LEAVE FOR ENGLAND.

Madeira, May 23rd, 1834.

To-morrow I leave this fairy Isle for England, where I hope soon to have the pleasure of meeting you, and of personally convincing you of my perfect restoration to health. Little more than three months has elapsed since I bid a last adieu, as I then thought, to the land of my birth; fully reconciled in my own mind, as they were carrying me to the cabin of the vessel, (being so unwell that I could not even support myself), that I had taken a final farewell of all that was dear to me.

After having been confined to my room for upwards of four months, from inflammation on the lungs, during which time I had undergone

every degree of blistering, bleeding, and medicine, it was recommended, as a last resource for the recovery of my health, that I should try a change of climate. Yourself, and others, urged many reasons against my leaving England; but Dr. F—— held out such hopes if I visited Madeira, as well as the danger consequent on remaining in such a varying climate as our own, even but a short time longer, that it required little consideration on my part to take his advice. A vessel was advertised to sail the following week for Jamaica, calling at Madeira; and having my passage secured by her, I was conveyed on board in as dangerous a state as any invalid could be who had to endure removal.

Few persons have left their native shore with more distressing feelings, and gloomy ideas, than those which crowded upon me as I took leave of the friends who accompanied me on board; but I was determined that the "adieu" at least should give favourable impressions,

whatever might be the result. I was assisted into my berth—a bottle of medicine was placed under my pillow—the anchor weighed—and I was borne away on the rude wave, without a relation, friend, or servant on board. We had boisterous weather for the three first days in the channel; but to me it was a matter of little consequence, as the fatigue and sickness kept me in a state of stupor until the fourth day, when, having recovered from the effects of sea-sickness, the steward assisted me out of my berth, and conducted me to the cabin, where I made a good breakfast; but was soon compelled, from weakness, to return to my room, and lie down again. Three days afterwards I was enabled to go on deck, and as the weather became milder on the week following, I began to feel comparatively well; and my strength continued increasing daily.

We reached Madeira in thirteen days from Liverpool, and during this short period my cough and expectoration had left me; and I

landed very unlike, in appearance, one in search of health. The city did not give me a very favourable opinion of the Island on entering it, the streets being narrow, the houses irregularly built, and presenting a dull and prison-like appearance, which was not improved by an interior inspection. The ground floor of the houses in Funchal is generally used as a store or court, having a passage to the vineyard or garden behind; whilst the next contains kitchens, lodging-rooms, &c. The rooms I engaged were spacious, uncarpeted, with little furniture, and, consequently, devoid of all that comfortable appearance which greets you on entering even a common boarding-house in England. I did not, however, expect to find the "comforts" of an English fire-side; neither are they required in such a climate; and I soon saw the necessity of being without the before-mentioned luxuries.

After a few days' rest, I felt perfectly happy and contented, and began to inquire about

the *lions* of the place. My spirits kept pace with my improvement in health; and a daily ride up the mountains, I found gave me great relief from pain in my chest and side, to which I was subject. I mentioned this to a fellow-lodger, suffering severely in the same way, but who was recommended by Dr. —— not to take exercise on horseback. I, however, prevailed upon him to accompany me two or three times into the country, and he derived so much benefit, that he afterwards rode out daily; and in a short time was perfectly rid of the pain and difficulty of breathing.

It is, probably, a fortunate circumstance for invalids, that there are no public places of amusement in Funchal; for a sick person ought certainly to have nothing to do with crowded parties, theatres, &c. I witnessed the bad effect of this during my stay at Cintra. A young gentleman, gradually recovering from a long pulmonary complaint, had been invited to an evening party, about two miles from

the Casa de Pasto, or hotel, where he was staying. The party was large, and kept up till two o'clock; at which hour the invalid left to ride home. The rain came down in torrents ere he had got half the distance, and as there was no possibility of shelter, he arrived at the hotel perfectly drenched with the wet. I left him at Cintra the following week, confined to his bed; and was sorry to learn, in a few months, he was dead—never having left the house after his return from the party.

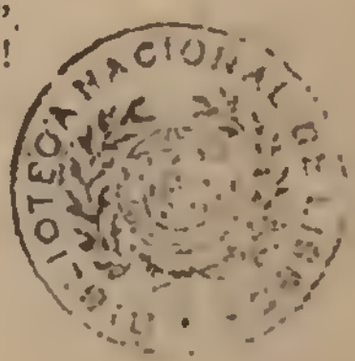
I attributed much of my recovery to the benefit I experienced on the voyage; but my health, since I arrived in Madeira, has gradually improved; and I now feel equally as well as I ever did in my life.

I have been occupied the last few days in paying my farewell respects to Madeira friends; and it is impossible that I can ever forget the kind manner in which I have invariably been treated during my stay amongst them. I leave them with every possible regret, but in the

hope that I may one day or other visit them again; and often, when the waters are far between us, shall I envy their residence on such a favoured Isle.

---

Grateful I leave thee, Island of gorgeous bowers!
Where Time's sole dial is of star-gemm'd flowers;
Where winds are shedding, from Elysian wings,
Fresh life and hope,—even o'er faded things.
When last I sought thee, drooping, racked with pain,
I little deemed that earth for me again
Would smile with beauty; glad and free as first
On this orb's chaos magically burst:
For Death's pale shadow seemed around me thrown;
And wearied hope from my sick heart was gone.
I gazed on life as on a flickering light,
Soon to be veiled by an eternal night.
A strange, wild alchymy thou hold'st, fair isle;
Within thy breast a spirit lives, whose smile,
Bright as the hues of thy most radiant sky,
Blendeth and steepeth all in harmony.
Thou Paradise of Earth, adieu! Oh, not forgot
Is one sweet glade, or elfin-peopl'd spot;
And dearer memories rush o'er my heart,
As miser's treasure: never must we part!



# APPENDIX.

# APPENDIX.

## No. I.

THERE are frequent opportunities for persons going out to Madeira, from London, Liverpool, Bristol, Glasgow, &c., by merchant-vessels sailing for the East and West Indies, which stay at the Island for the purpose of taking in wine, &c. The Brazilian packet, from Falmouth, which calls at Madeira, sails on the Friday following the first Tuesday in each month. The *Dart*, Capt. Ormson, and the *Vernon*, Capt. Davies, also sailing-packets, leave London regularly, calling at Portsmouth or Plymouth, and have excellent accommodations, being fitted up expressly for the conveyance of passengers. Steamers likewise leave London in October and November, *via* Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar; but as they only make one or two trips during the season, there are generally so many passengers, that it is not the most agreeable or comfortable way of going out. During my stay in Lisbon, I went on board one of these steamers bound for Madeira, and found no fewer than fifty-four passengers, most of them invalids, which to me gave her more the appearance of a floating hospital than any thing else. To an invalid, I should certainly recommend the *Vernon* or *Dart*, as possessing every comfort and convenience, and generally making good passages; the length of time from Portsmouth or Plymouth seldom exceeding ten or fifteen days. The Brazilian packet does not call

at Madeira on her return; consequently, the only direct and regular conveyance to England is by the two vessels already mentioned. There are however sailing vessels, about every fortnight, to Lisbon, which meet her Majesty's steam-packets for Falmouth. It is not necessary to take out any winter clothing, except that which is required on the voyage; and the duties at Madeira, on nearly every thing, being so enormously high, I would recommend as few articles of furniture, books, music, &c., to be taken out as possible. A friend of mine visiting the Island last season, took out a piano-forte, but the duty levied on it being more than the actual cost of the instrument, she of course let it remain in the custom-house. By the present tariff, a dining or drawing-room chair is subject to a duty on entering Madeira of six dollars,—a square piano, forty-two dollars,—cabinet ditto, seventy-two dollars,—and a grand piano, *one hundred and fifty dollars*. No drawback is allowed, if they are shipped again from the Island; but, on the contrary, a small duty is again levied on their being exported. It is easy for any respectable person to obtain letters of recommendation to some of the merchants in Madeira; but two or three are quite sufficient, as the visitors now have become so numerous, that the merchants scarcely can be expected even to give the "dinner" which generally succeeds, and often at the same time ends, an introduction of this kind. Formerly, it was quite the reverse; as the first merchant to whom you presented your letter would not allow you to go to any other house than his own; not offering you, as the Spaniard does by words only, "his house and everything it contains," but compelling you to remain with him during your stay on the Island. Boarding-houses were not then established, and few persons visited Madeira to remain the whole of the season. The most advantageous money to take out to Madeira are our sovereigns, as by a recent decree they are now become current coin; and it often happens that, by taking out letters of credit there is a very considerable loss on the exchange.

The following money of Madeira is computed by *reis*—an imaginary coin:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Reis,—the | Vintem. | |
| 50 | ,, | Half-Testoon, or Half-Bit. | |
| 100 | ,, | Testoon, or Bit. | |
| 200 | ,, | Pistarine, or two Testoons. | |
| 400 | ,, | Crusado. | |
| 1000 | ,, | Spanish Dollar. | By a recent decree. |
| 4600 | ,, | Sovereign. | |
| 4000 | ,, | Qr. Doubloon. | |
| 8000 | ,, | Half ditto. | |
| 16000 | ,, | Doubloon. | |

On arriving at the Island, (and particularly so, if the voyage has been long and tedious), every person is anxious to get domiciled on shore as quickly as possible; but this ought not to be done in too great haste, as it is not only unpleasant but expensive to have to remove, should the lodgings so taken not answer your expectations. I would, consequently, recommend all persons to leave their luggage, &c. on board, and on reaching the shore, either to call on the consignee of the vessel by which they had arrived, or, presenting one of their letters to a merchant, request him to accompany them to the boarding-houses, of which the following are the principal ones in Funchal:—

Mrs. French.....Rua da Carreira.
Mr. Solden.....Rua do Capitao.
Mr. Hollway.....Caminho do Meio.
Mr. Hayward.....Rua de Sto. Pedro.
Mrs. Mair .....Rua de Sta. Maria de Cima.
Mrs. Bridgman.....Rua de Peru.
Mrs. Goodall.....Rua de Sta. Maria de Baixo.
Mrs. M'Ginn.....Travessa da Saude.

Their terms range from ten to fifteen dollars per week, for a sitting-room, bed-room, and board, inclusive of wine. Washing is extra. There are several furnished cottages, or *quintas*, to be taken for the season, in the neighbourhood of the city, at a rent

of from £60 to £200, according to the situation and size of the house. One, for the former rent, contains two sitting-rooms, with four or more bed-rooms, and kitchen, and other conveniences; the latter has more lodging rooms, with vineyard, garden, and outbuildings. For a family proceeding out, who intend to remain the season, a *quinta* of this kind is by far the most economical and comfortable mode of passing the winter; and, for their better government, the following particulars regarding the prices of provisions may be serviceable, which are generally as under, viz. :— .

Fish.....60 to 80 reis per lb., equal to 3d. or 4d.
Beef.....60 „ 65 „ „ „ 3 „ 3¼
Mutton...50 „ 80 „ „ „ 2½ „ 4
Pork.....80 „ 100 „ „ „ 4 „ 5
Veal.....80 „ 100 „ „ „ 4 „ 5
Fowls..... 3 „ 4 dollars per dozen.
Ducks....4 „ 5 „ „
Partridges, 800 reis per brace.
Wild Pigeons, 600 reis „
Rabbits, 200 to 300 reis per couple.
Peaches, from 10 to 50 for 100 reis.
Apricots „ 50 to 200 „ 100 „
Oranges „ 100 200 „
Lemons „ 100 300 „
Bananas „ 15 to 20 100 „
Melons, 1 for 100 reis.
Wild Strawberries, per quart-basket, 100 reis.
Table Grapes, all kinds, per lb. 60 reis.

It is not advisable to take out female servants; as good cooks, &c. may be had there at from three to six dollars per month, who, speaking the language, and knowing the customs of the country, are better enabled to procure every thing on more favourable terms; while the former, from their ignorance of the same, would be nearly useless. There are no carriages to be had on the Island; in fact, the roads, in every direction, are so steep

and narrow, that it would be almost impossible to use them. The ponies are small, but very safe and sure-footed, and may be hired for the day, or a short ride, at a few minutes' notice. The charge is from a dollar and a half to two dollars per day; but I would recommend a person intending to stay a considerable time, to purchase a pony on his arrival, the price being about fifty dollars, which might be disposed of on leaving the Island for nearly the same amount. The cost for its keep, &c. would not average more than a pistarine (about tenpence sterling) each day. There are several medical gentlemen in Funchal; but I believe Dr. Renton is generally consulted by the English visitors, owing to his long residence on the island, and his experience as a physician in all pulmonary complaints. Doctors Luiz Henriques, Pitta, and Broughton, are also considered clever in the profession. A mercantile association, authorized by the Queen, has lately been established; its object being to represent to the government at Lisbon all matters connected with business, for the better regulation of commerce, and improvements of the Island. Two newspapers are also published weekly, under the titles—*A Flor do Oceano*, and *A Chronica*. There is a library and news-room, with billiard-room attached, in the Rua da Carreira, known as the "English Rooms." The shops in Funchal do not present any very gay appearance, being generally stores for the sale of all descriptions of goods. Those belonging to the following persons are the most celebrated, containing every variety of English manufacture:—

Rutherford and Grant,—Rua d'Alfandega.
John Unwin,—Rua do Bittancourt.
William Newton,—Rua d'Alfandega.

The city of Funchal, I believe, can only boast of possessing one milliner and dressmaker, (Madame Garnier); owing, I suppose, to the Madeiriots, for the most part, being their own sempstresses. It is unnecessary for me to make any remarks here on the climate of the Island, having, in my last letter from

Madeira, dwelt upon it as connected with my own individual case. I may, however, observe that the number of invalids visiting Madeira increases yearly, there being no fewer at the present, (March, 1838), on "this bright little isle," than from two hundred and fifty to three hundred strangers, who are seeking health in its restorative clime.

## No. 2.

M. C——, the celebrated Nun of Madeira, left the Santa Clara Convent soon after my departure from the Island, and is now residing in Funchal. A change in the constitution was the means of setting her at liberty.

## No. 3.

In October, 1803, there was a very disastrous flood in Madeira. There had been no rain for several months, and the rivers or torrents were almost dry. The rain did not begin before midday,—continued incessantly,—and at eight o'clock the torrents came down—swept away all the bridges but one, (on which the surveyor had built his own house), and carried away several houses, with the inhabitants in them vainly imploring relief from the windows; the lower parts being full of water, it was impossible to force the doors, and before ladders could be applied, the houses went to pieces, and the unfortunate people were lost. One house was carried into the sea, and seen there entire for some minutes, with the lights in the upper windows. According to the confession-lists of the priests, not more than 300 persons were lost; but as the principal mischief happened in a quarter of the town inhabited by sailors (among whom were a great many foreigners, it being war-time) and prostitutes, who

were never on the confession-lists, the total loss of lives must have been upwards of 400. The streets were choked with ruins and heaps of dead oxen, sheep and domestic animals. The church doors were blockaded with bodies, laid there to be owned, and accumulating as the streets were cleared; some apparently retaining sparks of life, but neglected and allowed to expire in the general panic and bustle. They were all burned afterwards, and all the pitch and tar at hand put in requisition to fumigate the streets by bonfires. It is said to have been scarcely less distressing to view the despondence which for days pervaded almost the whole of the lower classes. They believed the end of the world was fast approaching, and would make no exertion; but remained like statues, until roused by a renewal of the rain, when they ran from their houses; some rushing through the crowd with torches, others rolling over each other in the darkness of the night, and many returning in despair, unable to find a retreat. The peasantry flocked to Funchal, thinking the calamity had been confined to the country, and met the flying towns-people on their way. One good, however, resulted; for the quantity of earth carried into the sea diminished the soundings and anchorage of the harbour several fathoms. From the breaking up and transport of large pieces of ground in the interior, it would seem that a water-spout had burst there.

## No. 1.

Bowdich, speaking of the Coural, says, "This place belongs to the nuns of the Santa Clara. I have taken some pains to ascertain the meaning of the word *Coural*, which we do not find in the Portuguese dictionaries, and am assured, on native authority, that, coupled with *das Freiras*, it means the "Nun's Fold," i.e. the place of their retreat, in case of the invasion of the Island by foreigners, or any other attack, or outrage upon their convent or persons."

## No. 5.

There is much difference in the following ascribed heights of Pico Ruivo. However, the last is thought to be the nearest correct.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Goorlay, | 8250 | feet above the sea. |
| Smith, | 5162 | ,, |
| Sabine, | 5438 | ,, |
| Bowdich, | 6164 | ,, |
| Heineken, | 6008 | ,, |

## No. 6.

"I also passed over the peak of Giram, (the highest land seen to the westward of Funchal, on entering the Bay), which I found to be 2185 feet above the sea."—*Bowdich.*

## No. 7.

Machim's story is thus related by Alcaforado:—"In the reign of Edward III., Robert Machim, an accomplished gentleman, of the second degree of nobility, loved—and was beloved by—the beautiful Anna D'Arfet, the daughter of a noble of the first class. Machim was incarcerated for his presumption, by virtue of a royal warrant; and, on his release, endured the bitter mortification of learning that Anna had been forcibly married to a noble, who carried her to his castle, near Bristol. A friend of Machim's had the address to introduce himself into the family, and became the groom of the broken-hearted Anna, who was thus persuaded and enabled to escape on board a vessel with her lover, in the view of ending her days with him in France. In their hurry and alarm they embarked without the pilot, and the season of the year being the most unfavourable, were soon at the mercy of a

dreadful storm. The desired port was missed during the night, and the vessel driven out to sea. After twelve days of suffering, they discovered faint traces of land in the horizon, and succeeded in making the spot, still called Machico. The exhausted Anna was conveyed on shore; and Machim had spent three days in exploring the neighbourhood with his friends, when the vessel, which they had left in charge of the mariners, broke from her moorings in a storm, and was wrecked on the coast of Morocco, where the crew were made slaves. Anna became dumb with sorrow, and expired three days after. Machim survived her but five days, enjoining his companions to bury him in the said grave, under the venerable cedar, where they had, but a few days before, erected a cross in acknowledgment of their happy deliverance. An inscription, composed by Machim, was carved on the cross, with the request that, the next Christian who might chance to visit the spot, would erect a church there. Having performed this last sad duty, the survivors fitted out the boat, which they had drawn ashore on their landing; and, in the hope of reaching some part of Europe, were also driven on the coast of Morocco, and rejoined their companions—but in slavery. Zargo, during an expedition of discovery to the coast of Africa, took a Spanish vessel with redeemed captives, amongst whom was an experienced pilot, named Morales, who entered into the service of Zargo, and gave him an account of the adventures of Machim, as communicated to him by the English captives, and of the land-marks and situation of the newly-discovered island. Galvano relates the same story from the Castilian Chronicles, with the difference, that Machim survived, and reached Castile after being made a prisoner by the Moors."

## No. 8.

Cordeyro, an ancient writer, states that "the dragon trees of Porto Santo were so large that, fishing boats, capable of

containing six or seven men, were made out of the trunks, and that the inhabitants fattened their pigs on the fruit;" but he adds that so many boats, shields, and corn-measures had been made out of them, that even in his time there was scarcely a dragoa tree to be seen on the Island.

No. 9.

"The ravine leading to the waterfall is inhabited by that beautiful species of owl, the *strix flammea*. The *tutinegro*, so much admired for the melody of its note, is a species of nightingale, one-third less than that of Europe. I saw another and more curious bird—resembling that of the widow-bird,—but I doubt if it is a native of the Island."—*Bowdich*.

No. 10.

"The length of Madeira, from Ponta de Pargo to Ponta St. Lorenzo, is 9¾ P. leagues (32½ G. miles), according to the survey of Col. Paulo D'Almeida, being 6 G. miles less than the distance between the same points in *Johnston's Geo-hydrographic Survey of Madeira*, published by Faden in 1790. The greatest breadth is from Porto da Cruz to Porto S. Jorge, 12 G. miles, according to Almeida, and 12½ according to Johnston. I make the circumference by Johnston's map, about 96 G. miles."

No. 11.

I am indebted to a friend on the Island for the following account of the change of constitution, which took place only a few days after I had left Madeira.

In June, 1834, a frigate appeared off the Island, which, it was immediately supposed, brought some public intelligence. Nothing, however, was learnt as to its object, till the English merchants, (by means of Marriott's signals), telegraphing with Capt.

Bertram, who was in command of the frigate, made themselves acquainted with the change. The news of Don Miguel being taken, was soon spread amongst the inhabitants, who, along with the soldiers, appeared anxious for some public manifestation. The governor was waited upon, but refused to acknowledge Donna Maria as Queen of Portugal; and gave orders to the officers in command of the forts, &c., to fire upon the vessel if she entered the bay. During this suspense, a major of the Cacadores, in the public *praza*, took off his cap, and gave "*vivas*" to Donna Maria II. and the constitution. A large concourse of people were soon collected together, and in less than two hours, some thousands of flags, favourable to the change, many beautifully worked upon silk, were seen waving from the balconies of the houses in the city; although a most diligent search had been made in many houses previous, by the authorities, to find emblems of this kind. The governor immediately embarked for Lisbon, Capt. Bertram being appointed in his place, and continued in office till the arrival of Mouzinho D'Albuquerque.

## No. 12.

Mean temperature of Funchal, as taken by Kirwan and Dr. Gourlay: I believe the latter is considered the most correct.

| | KIRWAN. | GOURLAY. |
|---|---|---|
| January ..... | 64° 18′ | 61° |
| February..... | 64° 3′ | 62° |
| March ..... | 65° 8′ | 64° |
| April ..... | 65° 5′ | 64° |
| May..... | 66° 53′ | 65° |
| June..... | 69° 74′ | 66° |
| July ..... | 73° 45′ | 73° |
| August ..... | 75° 02′ | 73° |
| September .... | 75° 76′ | 72° |
| October ..... | 72° 5′ | 68° |
| November..... | 69° 08′ | 65° |
| December..... | 65° | 64° |

The difference in the mean temperature of several years scarcely ever exceeds 1° of Fahrenheit in Madeira; and the difference between the means of February and August, which may be considered as the extremes of heat and cold, averages 10°.

## No. 13.

I have paid much attention, both in Madeira, Portugal, and Spain, in ascertaining their different methods of making wines, and the mode of cultivation, &c., and shall here briefly describe those of Madeira. There is, in the Island, a great variety of vines; but the following are the best, producing the wines most esteemed. The *Boâl*; from which we have a wine of the same name, of very delicate flavour, and which I judged to be the same vine that gives us the Bucellas; however, I could not learn if this was correct, as it is supposed by many to be of Burgundian descent; if so, it has changed most materially. The *Sercial* (said to be the Hoek vine of Germany) produces wine of that name, which is, in my opinion, by far the finest in the Island; in fact, surpassing *all* wines in *bouquet*, body, and flavour combined; and that from Paulo do Mar is considered the best. There is however but a very small quantity produced, the vine only succeeding in particular spots. The *Cadel*—whence the Malmsey—originally came from Candia; it requires a peculiar warmth, and only succeeds in one or two situations. The *Malvazia* produces an inferior quality of this wine, requiring burnt sugar, &c. to give it a sweeter flavour. The best Malmsey is from the vineyards of *Fazenda dos Padres*, adjoining the western end of Cape Giram, — only accessible by water, and this attended with danger. In order to increase its sweetness, the fermentation of Malmsey is checked earlier than that of other wines. The *Verdelho;* from which is made a strong white wine, commonly mixed with a variety of other kinds. Porto da Cruz is celebrated for the grape of this name, and, although a parish in the north, produces, in general, wines

equal to those of the south. The *Negro Molle*—from which is made the red wine called Tinta—is not much cultivated, as the foreign demand for the wine is very limited; though it possesses a Burgundy flavour, and is an excellent substitute for Port amongst the English residents. The husks remain in the cask during fermentation, in order to fix the colour; but it gradually gets paler; and some that I have seen, old in bottle, resembled the white Madeira, both in flavour and colour. It is excellent, used as Sangaree. The *Maroto* yields a dark, rich, and very astringent wine, called Negrinho. The grapes, before going to the press, are dried in the sun, upon the tiles of the houses. The consumption is very small, being used chiefly as a cordial. The time of the vintage, of course, varies with the season, though generally taking place in the latter part of September. It commences in the spots most favoured by the sun; and as the picking of the grapes extends up the sides of the valleys, the rats and lizards, which are very numerous, all follow; not allowing a cultivator to keep his grapes on the vines, after his neighbours' are gathered, except at a considerable loss. They devour immense quantities of grapes, and are said to give the preference to the Tinta.

In making wine, the grapes are first trodden by the feet, in a large wooden or stone trough; then placed in the press; and the juice put the same day, in casks to ferment. The violent part of the fermentation lasts about four or five weeks; at the end of which the liquor is racked into other casks, and afterwards requires great care, as it is apt to undergo a second fermentation. It is fined with gypsum, brought from Porto Santo and Spain. The quality of the wine depends much upon its future treatment; and, in the finer and more delicate kinds, the fortifying with *good* brandy is an essential point. The best that can now be had on the Island for this purpose (French brandy being prohibited, except in bottles, and that at a high duty) is made from the wines of Porto Santo. The vines are propagated by cuttings, and planted in trenches, from four to seven feet

deep (according to the nature of the soil), with a quantity of loose or stony earth placed at the bottom. There is no wine produced from the grapes for the first four or five years; after which, it seems, (taking the vineyards throughout the island), they produce on an average, about one pipe per acre; though, under the most favourable circumstances, an English acre will produce four pipes of wine. In the south, the vines are trained on trellises, made of cane, about three feet in height; but in the north, as they require firmer support, they are trained around the chestnut, and other trees. If the summer be dry, the ground afterwards is watered three times, from the tanks adjoining the vineyards, which reservoirs are made at great expense. There is, at the present, many favourable situations for the culture of the vine, which, for the want of water, remain almost useless; but this might easily be conveyed, by laying down pipes; and, though at a great expense, would soon amply repay the cultivator.

## No. 14.

"The *Verdelho* vine leaf has seven lobes, the sinuses of which are not strongly marked; it is of a dark green, but perfectly bald; the two lowest lobes are very indistinct. That of the *Negro Molle* has five distinct lobes, the two lowest closing but not adhering over the stalk; the sinuses are deep and round; the dentations large and rounded; it is slightly downy at the back; the nerves strong and projecting; and of a dark yellow-green, inclining a little to red at the base. The *Bastardo* leaf is rounder than most others; its lobes are indistinctly marked, and the dentations are large and sharp; it is of a light yellow-green, downy at the back, and the whole assumes a cockled appearance. Four of the sinuses of the *Buâl* leaf are very deep and sharp; the two lower are indistinct; the dentations are sharp and irregular; the leaf is hairy on both sides. There are two

varieties of *Tinta;* the largest has seven lobes, decreasing in size, and the sinuses very deep and rounded; the middle lobe is subdivided into two others, both indistinct; the smaller is of a more compact form, and the lower sinuses much less deep than the others; both are of a dark green with purple spots, and downy at the back. The leaf of the *Sercial* has four rounded sinuses; the nerves are very strong, and by their projections give a cockled appearance to the leaf; it is of a very yellow-green, and cottony on both sides. It is said to grow best under precipices, in places which attract the clouds; and as the husk is very thick, is left longer than the others to ripen. The *Codel* leaf has four very deep and rounded sinuses, with two others less distinct; each dentation has a small yellow tip; the back of the leaf is as smooth as the upper surface, and it is of a deep yellow-green; the other varieties are less marked; but all have the same smoothness and yellow tips. It was introduced from Candia before 1445, by Prince Henry."—*Colleçâo de Noticias.*

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The Portuguese once drew their principal supplies of sugar from Madeira; but when the cane had succeeded in the West Indies, its culture was abandoned for that of the vine, (introduced from Cyprus), which became more profitable. The *Colleçâo de Noticias* says, "In the fifteenth century, 400 Venetian *cantaros* of sugar were annually produced in Madeira, but the relative capacity of this measure cannot now be ascertained."

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"In 1813, 22,314 pipes of wine, 77,601 English bushels of wheat, 11,616 of rye, and 12,768 of barley were produced in Madeira."—*Colleçâo de Noticias.*

## No. 15.

I have been kindly favoured with the following valuable information by Mr. ELLIS, of Liverpool, who visited Madeira during the last season, for the benefit of his health.

## A TABLE

*Shewing the Daily Variations of the Thermometer, between morning and evening, from the 23rd of October, 1837, to the 18th of April, 1838; with Remarks on the Weather.*

| 1837. | D'grees. Morn. 9 o'clck. | D'grees. Noon. 1 o'clck. | D'grees. Even. 9 o'clck. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Oct. 23 | 75 | 76 | 76 | Fine. |
| 24 | 74 | 77 | 76 | Sultry. |
| 25 | 74 | 76 | 76 | Wet. |
| 26 | 73 | 76 | 75 | Very fine. |
| 27 | 73 | 75 | 75 | Fine. |
| 28 | 72½ | 75 | 74 | Ditto. |
| 29 | 72 | 74 | 73 | Ditto. |
| 30 | 70 | 72 | 72 | Fine and rainy. |
| 31 | 69 | 72 | 72 | Fine. |
| Nov. 1 | 70 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 2 | 69 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 3 | 70 | 72 | 74 | Ditto. |
| 4 | 70 | 72 | 72 | Fine, with occasional rain. |
| 5 | 70 | 72 | 72 | Very fine. |
| 6 | 69 | 74 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 7 | 69 | 73 | 73 | Ditto. |
| 8 | 69 | 73 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 9 | 69 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 10 | 68 | 72 | 71 | Ditto. |
| 11 | 69 | 71 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 12 | 69 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 13 | 68 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 14 | 68 | 72 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 15 | 68 | 71 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 16 | 68 | 71 | 72 | Ditto. |
| 17 | 68 | 70 | 70 | Rain. |
| 18 | 67 | 68 | 69 | Fine. |
| 19 | 66 | 67 | 68 | Ditto. |
| 20 | 66 | 68 | 69 | Ditto. |
| 21 | 66 | 67 | 69 | Ditto. |
| 22 | 67 | 69 | 70 | Ditto. |
| 23 | 65 | 69 | 69 | Ditto. |
| 24 | 66 | 67 | 69 | Ditto. |
| 25 | 66 | 67 | 68 | Ditto. |
| 26 | 65 | 66 | 66 | Very wet. |

## A TABLE, &c.

| 1837. | D'grees. Morn. 9 o'clck. | D'grees. Noon. 1 o'clck. | D'grees. Even. 9 o'clck. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nov. 27 | 66 | 67 | 68 | Fine with rain. |
| 28 | 65 | 66 | 68 | Ditto. |
| 29 | 64 | 66 | 67 | Fine. |
| 30 | 64 | 65 | 67 | Ditto |
| Dec. 1 | 64 | 69 | 62 | Sultry, with rain. |
| 2 | 63 | 69 | 63 | Fine, but cloudy. |
| 3 | 63 | 68 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 4 | 63 | 71 | 63 | Fine, with occasional rain. |
| 5 | 64 | 68 | 62 | Rain. |
| 6 | 62 | 68 | 60 | Fine. |
| 7 | 62 | 68 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 8 | 61 | 69 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 9 | 66 | 74 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 10 | 67 | 72 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 11 | 66 | 71 | 62 | Cloudy. |
| 12 | 64 | 69 | 67 | Rain. |
| 13 | 69 | 74 | 66 | Fine. |
| 14 | 67 | 76 | 64 | Fine, but cloudy. |
| 15 | 66 | 74 | 66 | Fine, with light breeze. |
| 16 | 67 | 73 | 67 | Cloudy, with rain. |
| 17 | 69 | 69 | 69 | Rain. |
| 18 | 69 | 70 | 65 | Rain and fine. |
| 19 | 69 | 75 | 64 | Fine. |
| 20 | 69 | 76 | 66 | Very fine. |
| 21 | 69 | 75 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 22 | 64 | 74 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 23 | 64 | 70 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 24 | 64 | 71 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 25 | 64 | 70 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 26 | 64 | 70 | 63 | Ditto. |
| 27 | 62 | 72 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 28 | 62 | 66 | 63 | Rain. |
| 29 | 63 | 65 | 62 | Fine. |
| 30 | 61 | 72 | 62 | Fine with rain. |
| 31 | 62 | 65 | 58 | Fine. |
| 1838. 1 | 61 | 64 | 59 | Fine with rain. |
| Jan. 2 | 62 | 68 | 62 | Fine. |
| 3 | 62 | 67 | 64 | Cloudy. |
| 4 | 64 | 66 | 63 | Rain. |
| 5 | 62 | 65 | 63 | Ditto. |
| 6 | 63 | 70 | 62 | Fine with rain. |
| 7 | 58 | 60 | 55 | Rain. |
| 8 | 58 | 60 | 54 | Ditto. |
| 9 | 61 | 68 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 10 | 62 | 66 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 11 | 62 | 65 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 12 | 64 | 65 | 61 | Fine with rain. |
| 13 | 62 | 68 | 58 | Fine. |
| 14 | 62 | 68 | 59 | Ditto. |
| 15 | 62 | 69 | 59 | Fine and cloudy. |
| 16 | 62 | 68 | 58 | Fine with rain. |

## A TABLE, &c.

| 1838. | D'grees. Morn. 9 o'clck. | D'grees. Noon. 1 o'clck. | D'grees. Even. 9 o'clck. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan. 17 | 61 | 65 | 53 | Fine with rain. |
| 18 | 56 | 66 | 53 | Fine and cloudy. |
| 19 | 57 | 65 | 59 | Fine with rain. |
| 20 | 60 | 59 | 55 | Wet and stormy. |
| 21 | 58 | 65 | 50 | Fine. |
| 22 | 64 | 64 | 57 | Wet and stormy. |
| 23 | 59 | 60 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 24 | 60 | 64 | 56 | Fine. |
| 25 | 58 | 62 | 61 | Fine with rain. |
| 26 | 59 | 65 | 54 | Changeable. |
| 27 | 58 | 64 | 56 | Fine with rain. |
| 28 | 58 | 60 | 56 | Wet and stormy. |
| 29 | 56 | 62 | 59 | Fine with rain. |
| 30 | 59 | 65 | 56 | Ditto. |
| 31 | 57 | 66 | 58 | Ditto. |
| Feb. 1 | 58 | 69 | 62 | Fine. |
| 2 | 59 | 70 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 3 | 60 | 66 | 60 | Rain. |
| 4 | 62 | 68 | 58 | Cloudy; occasional rain. |
| 5 | 59 | 69 | 60 | Fine. |
| 6 | 62 | 72 | 60 | Ditto. |
| 7 | 64 | 69 | 60 | Ditto. |
| 8 | 64 | 68 | 61 | Ditto with light breeze. |
| 9 | 63 | 65 | 62 | Rain. |
| 10 | 63 | 69 | 62 | Fine, with high wind. |
| 11 | 63 | 68 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 12 | 64 | 66 | 64 | Rain. |
| 13 | 66 | 70 | 62 | Fine with high wind. |
| 14 | 64 | 65 | 62 | Rain. |
| 15 | 62 | 69 | 58 | Fine with rain. |
| 16 | 60 | 66 | 59 | Fine. |
| 17 | 61 | 67 | 63 | Ditto. |
| 18 | 62 | 63 | 59 | Rain. |
| 19 | 60 | 67 | 64 | Fine. |
| 20 | 64 | 66 | 64 | Rain. |
| 21 | 66 | 69 | 65 | Sultry with rain. |
| 22 | 66 | 72 | 63 | Fine. |
| 23 | 66 | 66 | 64 | Rain. |
| 24 | 66 | 70 | 64 | Fine. |
| 25 | 65 | 60 | 58 | Ditto. |
| 26 | 64 | 71 | 59 | Ditto. |
| 27 | 64 | 66 | 63 | Rain. |
| 28 | 65 | 69 | 62 | Fine. |
| Mar. 1 | 66 | 69 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 2 | 66 | 72 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 3 | 65 | 66 | 64 | Fine with rain. |
| 4 | 66 | 72 | 64 | Very fine. |
| 5 | 65 | 72 | 66 | Ditto. |
| 6 | 69 | 80 | 69 | Oppressively hot. |
| 7 | 72 | 81 | 66 | Ditto. |
| 8 | 70 | 80 | 67 | Ditto. |

## A TABLE, &c.

| 1838. | D'grees. Morn. 9 o'clck. | D'grees, Noon. 1 o'clck. | D'grees. Even. 9 o'clck. | Remarks. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. 9 | 66 | 76 | 66 | Oppressively hot. |
| 10 | 65 | 73 | 64 | Fine. |
| 11 | 65 | 72 | 64 | Fine and cloudy. |
| 12 | 64 | 69 | 63 | Fine. |
| 13 | 63 | 69 | 60 | Ditto. |
| 14 | 61 | 73 | 62 | Ditto. |
| 15 | 65 | 73 | 63 | Ditto. |
| 16 | 72 | 71 | 66 | Cloudy. |
| 17 | 69 | 73 | 68 | Fine. |
| 18 | 76 | 74 | 70 | Fine with rain. |
| 19 | 76 | 78 | 68 | Fine. |
| 20 | 66 | 76 | 66 | Ditto. |
| 21 | 70 | 71 | 67 | Ditto. |
| 22 | 62 | 68 | 58 | Ditto. |
| 23 | 62 | 68 | 59 | Ditto. |
| 24 | 62 | 72 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 25 | 69 | 70 | 60 | Ditto. |
| 26 | 69 | 72 | 66 | Ditto. |
| 27 | 69 | 78 | 64 | Ditto; sun very powerful. |
| 28 | 66 | 70 | 58 | Fine. |
| 29 | 68 | 68 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 30 | 68 | 73 | 61 | Ditto. |
| 31 | 64 | 74 | 61 | Ditto. |
| April 1 | 66 | 75 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 2 | 68 | 74 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 3 | 69 | 72 | 63 | Ditto. |
| 4 | 68 | 72 | 59 | Rain. |
| 5 | 64 | 69 | 57 | Ditto. |
| 6 | 64 | 64 | 57 | Ditto. |
| 7 | 64 | 66 | 57 | Ditto. |
| 8 | 66 | 70 | 62 | Fine. |
| 9 | 72 | 76 | 66 | Stormy. |
| 10 | 68 | 71 | 64 | Fine. |
| 11 | 66 | 70 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 12 | 68 | 74 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 13 | 68 | 78 | 66 | Fine with rain. |
| 14 | 70 | 78 | 67 | Fine. |
| 15 | 69 | 70 | 64 | Fine and cloudy. |
| 16 | 64 | 74 | 62 | Fine. |
| 17 | 68 | 76 | 64 | Ditto. |
| 18 | 66 | 76 | 64 | Ditto. |

From the preceding Table I make the mean temperature for

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| October ..... | 74° | January ..... | 61° |
| November ..... | 69° | February ..... | 64° |
| December ..... | 68° | March ..... | 68° |
| April ..... | 68° | | |

There were 35 days of rain, out of a period of 177 days. The last season however, (1837) was considered remarkably wet, even more so than they have had on the Island for many years.

## No. 16.

## PRODUCE OF MADEIRA AND PORTO SANTO

FOR THE FOLLOWING YEARS:—

### WINE.

| | | BARRIS. | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1831 | Madeira ..... | 151,341 | | |
| ,, | Porto Santo ..... | 4,341 | | |
| | | 155,682 | or | 16,921 Pipes. |
| 1835 | Madeira ..... | 152,452 | | |
| ,, | Porto Santo ..... | 8,181 | | |
| | | 160,636 | or | 17,460 Pipes. |
| 1836 | Madeira ..... | 312,069 | | |
| ,, | Porto Santo ..... | 15,170 | | |
| | | 327,239 | or | 35,569 Pipes. |
| 1837 | Madeira ..... | 201,892 | | |
| ,, | Porto Santo ..... | 10,352 | | |
| | | 212,241 | or | 23,070 Pipes. |

### WHEAT.

| | | ALQUIRES. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1831 | Madeira and Porto Santo | 163,733 | or | 8,186 | Quarters. |
| 1835 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 226,288 | ,, | 11,314 | ,, |
| 1836 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 169,456 | ,, | 8,472 | ,, |
| 1837 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 135,570 | ,, | 6,778 | ,, |

### BARLEY.

| | | ALQUIRES. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1831 | Madeira and Porto Santo.. | 52,839 | or | 2,641 | Quarters. |
| 1835 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 79,916 | ,, | 3,995 | ,, |
| 1836 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 70,216 | ,, | 3,510 | ,, |
| 1837 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 52,268 | ,, | 2,613 | ,, |

### RYE.

| | | ALQUIRES. | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1831 | Madeira and Porto Santo.. | 21,390 | or | 1,069 | Quarters. |
| 1835 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 20,073 | ,, | 1,003 | ,, |
| 1836 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 14,078 | ,, | 701 | ,, |
| 1837 | Ditto.....Ditto..... | 11,403 | ,, | 570 | ,, |

## WINE EXPORTED FROM FUNCHAL,

From 1st July, 1836, to 30th June, 1837.

| DESTINATION. | PIPES. |
|---|---|
| United States | 3,487 |
| England | 1,948 |
| West Indies | 1,944 |
| Russia | 743 |
| East Indies | 600 |
| France | 154 |
| Portugal, Cape de Verdes, Azores, &c | 132 |
| Vessels of War | 41 |
| Denmark | 35 |
| Bergen | 25 |
| Havana | 24 |
| Gibraltar | 22 |
| Newfoundland | 18 |
| Brazils | 12 |
| Coast of Africa | 12 |
| Hamburgh | 7 |
| Total | 9,204 |

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## WINE EXPORTED FROM FUNCHAL,

From 1st July, 1837, to 30th June, 1838.

| | PIPES. |
|---|---|
| July | 343 |
| August | 639 |
| September | 530 |
| October | 793 |
| November | 633 |
| December | 239 |
| January | 239 |
| February | 277 |
| March | 1,311 |
| April | 1,704 |
| May | 1,035 |
| June | 692 |
| Total | 8,435 |

## IMPORTS OF GRAIN AND SALT

INTO THE PORT OF FUNCHAL DURING THE YEAR 1837.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wheat | 9,707 | Moios; or | 29,121 | Quarters. |
| Indian Corn | 9,680 | ,, | 29,040 | ,, |
| Rye | 2,670 | ,, | 8,016 | ,, |
| Barley | 143 | ,, | 429 | ,, |
| Horse Beans | 49 | ,, | 147 | ,, |
| Eye ditto | 27 | ,, | 82 | ,, |
| Oats | 9 | ,, | 27 | ,, |
| Peas | 7 | ,, | 21 | ,, |
| White Beans | 1 | ,, | 3 | ,, |
| Salt | 592 | ,, | 1,776 | ,, |

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## WEIGHTS.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Quintal | is | 128 | lbs. | *These weights of Madeira are 4 per cent. heavier than those of England.* |
| ½ ,, | ,, | 64 | ,, | |
| 1 Arroba | ,, | 32 | ,, | |
| ¼ ,, | ,, | 16 | ,, | |
| ¼ ,, | ,, | 8 | ,, | |
| 1 Arratel or Livra | ,, | 1 | ,, | |
| ½ ,, ,, | ,, | ½ | ,, | |

---

## MEASURES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Pipa | is | 92 | Imperial Gallons. |
| 1 Meia Pipa | ,, | 46 | ,, |
| 1 Quartola | ,, | 23 | ,, |
| 1 Barril | ,, | 8 | ,, |
| 1 Almude | ,, | 4 | ,, |
| 1 Canada | ,, | ½ | ,, |
| ¼ ,, | ,, | ⅛ | ,, |
| 1 Quartilho | ,, | 1/32 | ,, |
| 1 Moio | ,, | 3 | Imperial Quarters. |
| 1 Alquire | ,, | ⅔ | Imperial Bushel. |
| 1 Vara | ,, | 1¼ | English Yards. |
| 1 Covado | ,, | ¾ | ,, |

# LIST OF VESSELS

## WHICH ENTERED THE BAY OF FUNCHAL DURING THE YEAR 1837.

ENGLISH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 3 | Ships |
| 1 | Frigate |
| 4 | Corvettes |
| 5 | Brigs of War |
| 2 | Schooners Do. |
| 2 | Armed Transports |
| 1 | Steamer Do. |
| 12 | Packets Do. |
| 31 | Merchant-Ships |
| 35 | Barques |
| 29 | Brigs |
| 9 | Brigantines |
| 20 | Schooners |
| 1 | Polacca |
| 2 | Sloops |
| 2 | Feluccas |
| 2 | Steamers |
| 161 | |

PORTUGUESE.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Frigate |
| 1 | Corvette |
| 1 | Brig of War |
| 2 | Armed Transports |
| 1 | Steamer Do. |
| 2 | Yachts Do. |
| 2 | Packets Do. |
| 1 | Galliot |
| 8 | Brigantines |
| 10 | Schooners |
| 49 | Yachts |
| 8 | Feluccas |
| 86 | |

FRENCH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Ship |
| 1 | Corvette |
| 1 | Ship |
| 1 | Brig |
| 1 | Schooner |
| 4 | Sloops |
| 9 | |

AMERICANS.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Frigates |
| 3 | Ships |
| 2 | Barques |
| 16 | Brigs |
| 12 | Brigantines |
| 3 | Schooners |
| 38 | |

DENMARQUESE.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Brigs of War |
| 2 | Barques |
| 5 | Brigs |
| 1 | Brigantine |
| 1 | Schooner |
| 1 | Galliot |
| 12 | |

SARDINIANS.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Brigs |
| 4 | Brigantines |
| 1 | Schooner |
| 24 | Polaccas |
| 2 | Bombardas |
| 33 | |

SPANISH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Feluccas |

NEAPOLITANS.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Polaccas |

HAMBURGH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Brig |
| 1 | Brigantine |

SWEDISH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Brigantine |
| 1 | Schooner |

NORWEGIAN.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Brigantine |

DUTCH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 2 | Galliots |

MECKLENBUROH.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Galliot |

GREEK.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Barque |

TUSCAN.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Bombarda |

AUSTRIANS.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Brig |
| 1 | Polacca |

Total, 355.

I have pleasure in stating that the business of the Island is improving; and should a more favourable tariff be adopted, which is expected soon to take place, an additional stimulus will be given to the merchants, who at present justly complain of the exorbitant duties on nearly every thing entering Madeira.

I have been at some pains in obtaining the following list of vessels entering the Bay of Funchal, from 1st January to 31st May, 1838; but I consider from this a just estimate may be formed of the trade to the Island.

| 1838. | VESSELS. | DAYS. | | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan. 1 | Providencia | 7 | fm | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, 7 | Neptuno | 7 | ,, | St. Michael..Indian Corn. |
| ,, 13 | Vernon | 3 | ,, | Teneriffe.... |
| ,, 14 | President | 9 | ,, | Plymouth....For S. America. |
| ,, 14 | Thunderer | 9 | ,, | Plymouth....For W. Indies. |
| ,, 15 | Pursuit | 30 | ,, | Elsineur ....Indian Corn. |
| ,, 15 | Opossum | 9 | ,, | Falmouth....For the Brazils. |
| ,, 17 | Isabella | 35 | ,, | London.....For Demerara. |
| ,, 18 | Funchal | 6 | ,, | Lisbon.....Sugar, &c. |
| ,, 18 | La Jeune Celine | 16 | ,, | St. Malo.... |
| ,, 26 | Ponto Fermoso | 20 | ,, | Havre..... |
| ,, 31 | Gov. M'Lean | 35 | ,, | Accra.....Indian Corn. |
| Feb. 2 | Hugh | 21 | ,, | Dublin .....For Trinidad. |
| ,, 3 | Dart | 18 | ,, | London .....Returned 24th. |
| ,, 8 | Sultana | 24 | ,, | Liverpool....Hobart Town. |
| ,, 11 | Lady Louisa | 22 | ,, | Gibraltar.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, 11 | N. Sociedade | 25 | ,, | Lisbon..... |
| ,, 23 | Clara | 16 | ,, | St. Michael.. |
| ,, 25 | Odessa | 18 | ,, | New York...Staves and rice. |
| Mar. 1 | Spey | 20 | ,, | Falmouth....For the Brazils. |
| ,, 3 | La Jeune Celine | 6 | ,, | Teneriffe.... |
| ,, 3 | Amelia | 38 | ,, | Liverpool....For Jamaica. |
| ,, 3 | Atalanta | 55 | ,, | London.....For St. Michael. |
| ,, 6 | Blundell | 25 | ,, | Dublin . ....For Trinidad. |
| ,, 10 | Concord | 27 | ,, | Swansea.....With Coal. |
| ,, 13 | Lebre | 4 | ,, | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, 13 | Providencia | 4 | ,, | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, 13 | Miranda | 28 | ,, | London.....For Antigua. |
| ,, 14 | Calliope | 12 | ,, | Plymouth....Rio de Janeiro. |
| ,, 14 | Dale Park | 35 | ,, | London .....For Jamaica. |
| ,, 15 | Minden | 5 | ,, | Gibraltar....For Bermuda. |
| ,, 15 | Brisk | 16 | ,, | Portsmouth...Sealed orders. |
| ,, 15 | Princess Augusta | 24 | ,, | London.....For Barbadoes. |
| ,, 16 | Vernon | 17 | ,, | London.....Retd. 2d April. |
| ,, 16 | Louisa Baillie | 25 | ,, | London.....For Demerara. |
| ,, 18 | Sabina | 26 | ,, | Bristol.....Wheat. |

| 1838. | VESSELS. | DAYS. | | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mar. | 20 Skylark | 11 | fm. | Falmouth....For the Brazils. |
| ,, | 21 Spey | 28 | ,, | Liverpool....With Coal. |
| ,, | 21 John | 19 | ,, | Swansea.....With Coal. |
| ,, | 21 Julieta | 4 | ,, | Saxim.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 28 Clara | 13 | ,, | St. Michael...Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 28 Comet | 35 | ,, | Newcastle....With Coal. |
| ,, | 29 Owen Glendower | 5 | ,, | Gibraltar..... |
| ,, | 30 Funchal | 6 | ,, | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, | 31 Carib | 18 | ,, | Swansea.....With Coal. |
| ,, | 31 Lady Louisa | 6 | ,, | Gibraltar....Wheat. |
| Apl. | 1 Tre Sorelli | 7 | ,, | Gibraltar....Wheat. |
| ,, | 1 Juno | 8 | ,, | Gibraltar....Wheat. |
| ,, | 2 Novo Destino | 9 | ,, | Fidbeira.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 2 Esperança | 11 | ,, | Flores.....Provisions. |
| ,, | 3 La Fê | 6 | ,, | Canaries.... |
| ,, | 3 Aurora Liberal | 12 | ,, | St. Michael..Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 3 Volage | 12 | ,, | Plymouth....For India. |
| ,, | 4 Hannah | 26 | ,, | Whitehaven..With Coal. |
| ,, | 4 Cleveland | 15 | ,, | London.....For Bombay. |
| ,, | 5 Duke of Manchstr. | 15 | ,, | London.....For Jamaica. |
| ,, | 5 City of London | 19 | ,, | London..... |
| ,, | 7 Rosabel | 25 | ,, | London.....Wheat. |
| ,, | 7 Hannah | 22 | ,, | Newcastle...With Coal. |
| ,, | 8 Dart | 8 | ,, | London.....Retd. 26th inst. |
| ,, | 8 Superior | 11 | ,, | Liverpool....For Batavia. |
| ,, | 8 João Evangelista | 8 | ,, | Faro.....With Figs. |
| ,, | 9 Novo Congresso | 8 | ,, | Lisbon.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 10 Voador | 12 | ,, | Liverpool....Rio de Janeiro. |
| ,, | 12 Estrella d'Caminha | 8 | ,, | Caminha....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 12 Bom Conceita | 6 | ,, | Setubal.....With Salt. |
| ,, | 13 Boâ Viagem | 7 | ,, | Faro.....Salt & Oranges. |
| ,, | 13 La Maria | 7 | ,, | Gibraltar....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 14 Estrella de Setubal | 6 | ,, | Setubal.....Salt & Oranges. |
| ,, | 14 Novo Desempenho | 7 | ,, | Oporto.....Rio de Janeiro. |
| ,, | 16 Seagull | 10 | ,, | Falmouth....Brazils. |
| ,, | 17 Lião | 5 | ,, | Gibraltar.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 17 Ferreira | 4 | ,, | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, | 19 Neptuno | 6 | ,, | Vienna.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 19 Lebre | 3 | ,, | Lisbon .....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 19 Emile et Marie | 8 | ,, | Nantes.....Spanish Amer. |
| ,, | 19 Tainoso | 6 | ,, | Oporto.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 20 John Cock | 10 | ,, | Liverpool....Wheat & Coal. |
| ,, | 21 Grant | 14 | ,, | London.....For Barbadoes. |
| ,, | 21 Gloria de Portugal | 21 | ,, | Genoa.....Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 24 Cruikshanks | 14 | ,, | London.....For Trinidad. |
| ,, | 27 Providencia | 3 | ,, | Lisbon.....General cargo. |
| ,, | 28 Clara | 9 | ,, | St. Michael..Indian Corn. |
| May | 3 Correio | 5 | ,, | St. Michael..Indian Corn. |
| ,, | 4 Nova Adelaide | 6 | ,, | St. Michael..Indian Corn. |

| 1838. | VESSELS. | DAYS. | | REMARKS. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| May 6 | Eleanor | 15 fm. | Bristol | For Barbadoes. |
| ,, 7 | Esperança | 7 ,, | Mazagão | Wheat. |
| ,, 7 | Lord Byron | 13 ,, | London | Wheat. |
| ,, 9 | Serra di Pilar | 26 ,, | Brava | Indian Corn. |
| ,, 15 | Lily | 24 ,, | Portsmouth | Rio de Janeiro. |
| ,, 15 | Elizabeth | 21 ,, | Whitehaven | With Coal. |
| ,, 15 | Hope | 11 ,, | Falmouth | For Brazils. |
| ,, 16 | Vulcan | 16 ,, | London | For Tobago. |
| ,, 16 | Hindostan | 12 ,, | London | For India. |
| ,, 16 | Chieftain (steamer) | 3 ,, | Lisbon | Retd. to London *via* Gibraltar, on the 19th, with 65 passengers. |
| ,, 16 | Wm. Fawcett (do.) | 8 ,, | Gibraltar | Retd. to London *via* Gibraltar, 20th instant, with 57 passengers. |
| ,, 17 | Sisters | 21 ,, | London | For Demerara. |
| ,, 17 | W. Money | 12 ,, | London | Calcutta. |
| ,, 18 | Eliza | 9 ,, | Cork | With Coal. |
| ,, 18 | Maria Christina | 17 ,, | Altona | Wheat. |
| ,, 20 | Antelope | 37 ,, | Philadelphia | Staves. |
| ,, 20 | La Concordia | 5 ,, | Lancerote | In ballast. |
| ,, 20 | Funchal | 9 ,, | Lisbon | General cargo. |
| ,, 23 | L'Inconstant | 10 ,, | Brest | Martinique. |
| ,, 24 | Amigo | 10 ,, | Faro | Salt, Oil, &c. |
| ,, 25 | Lião | 5 ,, | Saffim | Indian Corn. |
| ,, 25 | Thos. Snooks | 13 ,, | London | For Berbice. |
| ,, 27 | Columbia | 20 ,, | Norfolk | For India. |
| ,, 27 | John Adams | 20 ,, | Norfolk | For India. |
| ,, 29 | Sacra Familia | 8 ,, | Saffim | Indian Corn. |
| ,, 31 | Nova Sociedade | 23 ,, | Fogo | Indian Corn. |

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There is good anchorage in the bay; but vessels are much exposed to the S. S. E. and S. S. W. gales, which frequently oblige them to get under weigh, and proceed out to sea till the storm abates. Madeira would, no doubt, become a depôt for coals but for the impossibility of having them kept in barges afloat in the bay, and the great expense attendant on their being discharged and stored on shore.

## POPULATION OF MADEIRA AND PORTO SANTO IN 1836.

| DISTRICTS. | Families. | SEXES. | | | STATES. | | | AGES. | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Males. | Females. | Total. | Married. | Widows & Widowers | Single. | Years. 1 | 1 to 5. | 5 to 10. | 10 to 15. | 15 to 20. | 20 to 30. | 30 to 40. | 40 to 50. | 50 to 60. | 60 to 70. | 70 &c. |
| Funchal..... | 5797 | 13444 | 15209 | 28653 | 8190 | 1983 | 18480 | 853 | 2880 | 3630 | 3448 | 2562 | 4330 | 3505 | 3111 | 2219 | 1637 | 470 |
| Santa Cruz... | 1451 | 3611 | 3676 | 7287 | 2101 | 467 | 4719 | 174 | 799 | 926 | 922 | 638 | 1181 | 871 | 689 | 530 | 427 | 130 |
| Machico ..... | 1030 | 2655 | 2552 | 5207 | 1488 | 362 | 3357 | 157 | 627 | 698 | 668 | 468 | 761 | 635 | 496 | 351 | 292 | 54 |
| Santa Anna .. | 3072 | 7572 | 7227 | 14799 | 4747 | 746 | 9306 | 516 | 1913 | 1768 | 1685 | 1485 | 2566 | 1633 | 1448 | 941 | 716 | 128 |
| St. Vincent .. | 1960 | 4425 | 4423 | 8848 | 3040 | 482 | 5320 | 309 | 1143 | 949 | 1020 | 852 | 1509 | 986 | 899 | 650 | 488 | 43 |
| Porto Moniz . | 1559 | 3606 | 3727 | 7333 | 2321 | 422 | 4590 | 263 | 721 | 856 | 847 | 728 | 1183 | 906 | 747 | 514 | 460 | 108 |
| Calheta..... | 2731 | 6341 | 6792 | 13133 | 4054 | 774 | 8305 | 408 | 1548 | 1754 | 1714 | 1061 | 1855 | 1489 | 1389 | 928 | 821 | 166 |
| Ponta de Sol.. | 3288 | 7851 | 8259 | 16110 | 5112 | 825 | 10173 | 558 | 2143 | 2308 | 2000 | 1294 | 2341 | 1922 | 1487 | 1037 | 854 | 166 |
| Cama de Lobos | 2323 | 6119 | 6339 | 12458 | 3667 | 661 | 8130 | 409 | 1701 | 1781 | 1720 | 1075 | 1795 | 1321 | 1114 | 759 | 590 | 193 |
| Porto Santo .. | 371 | 883 | 785 | 1618 | 612 | 120 | 886 | 58 | 143 | 180 | 189 | 171 | 245 | 226 | 169 | 119 | 88 | 30 |
| Total..... | 23585 | 56507 | 58989 | 115446 | 35338 | 6842 | 73266 | 3705 | 13618 | 14850 | 14213 | 10334 | 17766 | 13494 | 11549 | 8048 | 6373 | 1488 |

### Births in Madeira, 1835.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Males, Legitimate..... | 1,807 | Females, Legitimate..... | 1,868 |
| Ditto, Illegitimate..... | 222 | Ditto, Illegitimate..... | 205 |
| | 2,029 | | 2,073 |

Total of Births.....4,102

Marriages—1,065. Deaths—Males, 1,383; Females, 1,368—Total, 2,751.

British Population in Madeira in 1836—108 Families, 321 Persons.

From the foregoing Table it will be seen the Population of Madeira, including the Island of Porto Santo, was 115,446, according to the last census taken in 1836. Mr. Bowdich states that in 1823 it was 98,000 and a fraction, being an increase of 14 per cent. above the census of 1813. Supposing this to be correct, we have an increase during the 13 years of about 20 per cent.

The inhabitants of Madeira are not remarkable for longevity, but on the contrary, in general die very young; as will be perceived by referring to the preceding table. The number of persons between 20 and 30 years of age in 1836, was 17,766, and from 30 to 40 years of age 13,494; exhibiting a decrease in these respective ages of 4,272. This can only be accounted for, by the poor diet of the lower classes, which consists of coarse bread, vegetables, and a little fish, rarely or ever tasting animal food. The women suffer more in health than the men, in consequence of their early marriages, and numerous offspring, as well as the hard labour they are obliged to undergo in cutting wood on the mountains for fuel, which they bring in heavy burthens on their heads to Funchal. They dispose of this firewood in the city, and purchasing a little dried fish, have to return home probably a considerable distance on the mountains. This severe labour, meagre food, and warmth of climate, makes them old in constitution, when young in years. Another source of injury to females of the higher class, is the sedentary life they lead, particularly in summer, when they rarely venture out of doors, except to go to church, and then probably in a palanquin. The district of Santa Anna on the N. E. side of the Island appears the most unfavourable with regard to longevity, as out of a population of 14,799, there are 2,566 between 20 and 30 years of age, and only 1,633 from 30 to 40 years old, with the small number of 128 having reached the age of 70. Funchal does not share near so much in this decrease of numbers at so early an age, as any of the other parishes; having a difference only of 19 per cent., whilst the other districts exhibit a decrease of 21 per cent.; clearly

proving that in a great measure it arises from the diet, &c. of the peasantry.

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FROM THE GOVERNMENT CENSUS OF 1836, THERE APPEARS:

| | |
|---|---|
| Heads of Families, being landholders | 4,550 |
| Ditto ditto not ditto | 19,213 |
| Persons living solely on their income | 640 |
| Ditto, on salaries (not including the military) | 409 |
| Ditto, by industry | 29,566 |
| Ditto, part by ditto of small income | 374 |
| Mendicants | 646 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Apothecaries | 12 | Church Decorators | 3 |
| Printers | 5 | Cabinet-makers | 93 |
| Bookbinders | 2 | Millers | 92 |
| Watchmakers | 4 | Potters | 15 |
| Miniature Painters | 3 | Whitesmiths | 76 |
| Goldsmiths | 28 | Blacksmiths | 112 |
| Painters | 20 | Sawyers | 43 |
| | | Wood Turners | 7 |
| Carpenters | 242 | Coopers | 188 |
| Masons | 290 | Farriers | 8 |
| Tailors | 73 | Braziers | 5 |
| Hair Dressers | 24 | Coppersmiths | 3 |
| Ship Caulkers | 25 | Boot and Shoe-makers | 420 |
| Tanners | 23 | Shoe-makers | 439 |
| Paviors | 31 | Wax Chandler | 1 |
| Hatter | 1 | Upholsterer | 1 |

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I am informed the "*William Fawcett*" steamer, is intended to leave Lisbon on the 21st September next, for Madeira, and will return afterwards to Lisbon, and make other trips to and from the Island during the season. This will prevent the unpleasantness of a crowded cabin, as mentioned in the former part of the Appendix; and the time at sea also will be much shorter than *via* Gibraltar, the voyage from Falmouth to Lisbon by steam being four days, and from Lisbon to Madeira about three days. The "*William Fawcett*" is a fine sea boat, commanded by Captain George Wilson, of the Portuguese

Royal Navy, of whose abilities, as a naval officer, and gentlemanly conduct, I cannot speak in too high terms. As this vessel belongs to the "Peninsular Steam Navigation Company," whose packets convey the mail from Falmouth to Lisbon, &c., the passage can be taken from London or Falmouth direct to Madeira.

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I recommend the following Hotels, for the information of those who may visit the Island, by way of Lisbon, &c :—

Mrs. De Belem, English Hotel, 28, Rua do Ferregial de Cima, Lisbon.

Mrs. De Belem, English Hotel, Cintra.

Senhora Viscaina, Fonda, 72, Calle Ancha, Cadiz.

Mr. J. Wall, Posada Ingleza, 94, Calle St. Francisco, Cadiz.

Mr. Dickson's Hotel, Gibraltar.

THE END.

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